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April 1994

Newsletter 33

"The glory of creation is in its infinite diversity and the way our differences combine to create meaning and beauty."

Honorary Members: Gene Roddenberry, Majel Barrett, Jonathan del Arco, Richard Arnold, James Doohan, Siddig El Fadil, Robert Justman, Walter Koenig, John de Lancie & Marnie Mosiman, Mark Lenard, Michael Okuda, Ernie Over, Nichelle Nichols, Susan Sackett, Marina Sirtis, Patrick Stewart, Rick Sternbach, George Takei, Guy Vardaman, Rupert Evans, Lorraine Kelly, Anne Page, Rick Parfitt, Bjo Trimble.

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Hi, welcome to another newsletter. In case anyone is wondering, we have not missed a month. The last newsletter was actually the February one. Janet put January on it by mistake.

Karen Sparks has decided to resign as Committee Assistant for personal reasons - in her letter Karen says, "With everything that has been and is still going on in my life, Trek is becoming squeezed out. It will, and IDIC particularly, always have a special place in my heart." We're very sorry to lose your active involvement, Karen. You have been a great help in the past.

We were all concerned about the people in Los Angeles during the recent Earthquake and send our best wishes to them all. As far as we know DeForest Kelley and Nichelle Nichols suffered the most damage to their houses. Majel and Richard lost a lot of their crystal collections and Richard lost his Wedgwood. Susan Sackett got away with losing a few pieces but she says it was terrifying. "The noise was the worst part - it sounded like a freight train tunnelling through the house. Since it's made of wood, all the boards rattled and shook like a carpenter hammering on fast forward."

FAXES

Twice this last month a member trying to fax Sheila from Canada failed to make contact with her machine. (She has to answer the phone to know whether it is a call or a fax, and the fax sometimes plays up.) If anyone has a problem getting a fax through to Sheila, send it to Janet, whose fax is on permanent automatic on a special line, and she will forward it as soon as practicable.

IDIC SPECIAL

We are holding an increasing number of articles and quizzes that we are unable to fit in the newsletter. We do not want to stop people submitting articles because new subjects of discussion are coming up all the time and the articles are interesting. One possibility is for us to publish an IDIC Special containing articles and quizzes. This would be an extra publication in addition to the 6 newsletter a year and we would need to charge approx £1.25 for 50 pages or £2.50 for 100 pages (we're not sure yet of how long it would be). The cost is higher than for a newsletter because we would expect fewer copies to be printed. To keep the price down we may compile the special and then take pre-orders, as this will let us know how to many to print and also avoid tying up club

funds. Please let Sheila or Janet know if you would be interested in this type of publication.

MISSING PAGES

As we are having 1300 copies of the newsletter printed it is almost inevitable that a few copies will go out with a missing page. If you do find a page missing or damaged then please write to Janet giving the numbers of the pages and she will send you photocopies to slot in. Please do not send the complete newsletter back - at 36p postage a time this wastes money.

Please note - as of March 28th Sheila's telephone number changes and becomes 0382 858069. And in case any of you don't know, by April of 1995 all the area codes will also change to begin 01 instead of just 0. Sheila has been notified of this change by BT, Janet has not but has seen it in a magazine.

Congratulations to Rupert Bean - after winning the \$64000 Question some time ago, he has now gone on to do well in Big Break (mid February), winning (with the help of Steve Davis) £440 and a trip to the bulbfields (and stumping Jim Davidson with a Trek question!)

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

The closing date for the next newsletter is May 11th (May 9th for anything sent to Sheila). Don't forget - send postbag submissions, articles and reviews to Sheila, discs and everything else to Janet. And PLEASE put your full name on all submissions - if you don't and it gets separated from your letter then we can't print it.

If you are using a computer please read the article later in the newsletter.

Our thanks to Jennifer Blanchard, Joyce Bowen, Chris Boyce, Mark Burchell, Jennifer Cobbing, Toni Cumming, Stephen Daniels, Barbara Ellams, Janet Ellicott, Margie Ferguson, Alberto Gorin, George Haggarty, Lorraine Harvey, May Jones, Paul Lazarus, Kevin Noble, Fiona McDonald, Ann Neilson, Margaret Rainey, Shirley Read, Stephen Rothwell, Alan Stephen, Jenny Turner, Elaine

Webb, Russell Witheyman, Edward Woo, Joan Verba and anyone we have inadvertently forgotten to mention, for sending information and/or cuttings.

BADGES

You can still order IDIC logo badges from Janet at 50p inclusive of p&p. Please make payment in stamps. Also please enclose a self addressed sticky label or write your name and address on a piece of paper which we can stick on an envelope.

IDIC GUIDE DOG APPEAL

RAFFLE

The raffle winners are: Alan Stephen - William Shatner's Star Trek Memories; Kayta Phillips - Shadows in the Sun (Classic Trek novel); Neil Christie - The Devil's Heart (TNG novel); Barry O'Doherty - a year's membership of IDIC.

We are having another raffle in this newsletter. We're offering four prizes this time: A registration for Contagion: The Scottish Convention (kindly donated by the committee) - note: if you win this and have already registered they will refund your money; a signed photo of Nichelle Nichols, a signed photo of Jonathan del Arco, and the usual IDIC membership. For those who wish to take part - please state any preference and put it with your name and address or membership number on each individual ticket. Tickets are £1 each. (If you want any extra just send the money and we'll put in a ticket for you.) Please send your ticket/s (and money, of course!) to Sheila or Janet by May 11th. Winners will be announced in the next newsletter.

Please do not send £1 coins (some of these have been lost in the post) or cheques or POs for less than £2; we will accept stamps (any combination of values from 1p to £2).

USED STAMPS

We've delivered another load of stamps to Forfar - keep 'em coming in!

We've been asked to explain how money for a guide dog is raised from the collection of used stamps. The stamps are actually only

part of how we collect money to sponsor a dog. Other fund-raising activities we employ include the raffle in every newsletter, the collecting box that we take to cons and local meetings (thanks for rattling it, Lesley, as well as the other 'volunteers' we coerce into parting con-goers from some of their spending money), the sale (usually at cons) of books, zines and other items donated to us by members, and cash donations.

Used stamps are sold by weight to dealers who in turn process the stamps for sale to stamp collectors. This is why we ask for a quarter inch margin to be left round the stamps if you trim them; if the perforation is damaged, the stamp loses its value. The value of used stamps, at the moment, is £1.50 per kilo. If we take up 10 kilos (and that's a lot of stamps!) £15 is added to our accumulator card at Forfar. Other money that goes onto the card is what is taken in the collecting boxes. What comes in from the raffles, donations and the resale of books, etc, we keep in a separate bank account.

It now costs £2000 to sponsor a dog to the end of its training; if we chose to sponsor it for its entire working life, it would cost £2500, and we did debate going for £2500. The Appeals staff at Forfar however reckoned that since we're doing continuous fund-raising we'd be better just aiming for the £2000 each time.

If you are only sending used stamps please send them to Sheila as she is the one who takes them to Forfar. If you are enclosing them with other items you can send them to Janet or Valerie for Sheila to collect.

Any American/Canadian members who would like to contribute used stamps can send them to Bill Hupe, 916 Lamb Rd, Mason, MI 48854-9554, USA and he will forward them to us along with a list of your names so that we can acknowledge them.

We would like to thank Frances Abernethy, Annette Bannasch, Jean Barron, Jennifer Blanchard, The Borg Collective (Northampton), Carolyn Boydel, Freda Boydel, Maggie Bradfield, Julie Burton, David Butler, Liz Butler, Neil Christie, Clement Chung,

Denise Colucci, Martina Copple, Linda Court, Pen Crampton, Zander Bruce, Stephen Daniels, Cassie Davies (and her boss Terry Smith and workmates), Sara Dickinson, Paul Diskin, Michael Farquhar, Mark French, Eleanor Fryer, Anne Gregory, Stuart & Lesley Halliday, J Healey, Glynn Holland, Tracey Holland (and workmates), Christine Jones, Joanne Holden, Anne Jordan, Nanaki Kaur, Carol Kean, Antje Koenig, Marysia Kolodziej, Judith Linsell, Donna Macey, Gill Marsden, Anne McKay, Andrew McLean, Stewart McMillan, Philip Morley, Barry O'Doherty, Lorraine Poole, Shirley Read, Philip Morley, Sylvia Paddock, Taruka Quauhtezcail, Suzanne Perry (and family), Kayta Phillips, Ronald Reid, Gloria Rigg, Jim Robertson, Susan Sackett, Carla Salveta, Jean Sloan, Ingrid Smith, Rory Smith, Amanda Spence, Alexis Stokes, Margot Sykes, Carole Taylor, Judith Taylor, W Taylor, Theresa (HMS Scotia), Rachel Timms, Jenny Turner, Paul & Judie von der Fecht, Celia Wenban-Smith, Edward Woo, Maria Woodward, Julie Woolaston, and anyone we have inadvertently forgotten to mention, for donations of money, collectibles, and/or used stamps for the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. We can use all used stamps, whether British or Foreign. If possible please trim them, leaving ¼" of envelope around the stamp.

We look forward to seeing some of you at T'Kon. We are unable to go to UFP, but we do plan to go to Contagion and Archon.

We hope you will enjoy this newsletter. We plan to post the next newsletter out around June 1st.

Janet, Sheila, Valerie 6/3/94





LATEST STAR TREK NEWS

compiled by Janet Quarton



SATELLITE

TV Zone 52 reports that Sky One will screen all of season 6 of TNG. Classic Star Trek will take over on March 16th.

Sky One do intend to purchase 7th season TNG and 2nd season DS9 but there is still nothing definite on when it will be shown. There is also no word on when DS9 1st season will be repeated.

STAR TREK on BBC/ITV

Alberto Gorin received a letter from Lee Rogers of the BBC Viewer and Listener Correspondence saying that they hope to resume transmissions of TNG after the repeats of classic Trek finish - possibly in the Summer. There are no plans to purchase DS9 at the moment.

Star Trek screening dates.

| Ep. | Title | Date Shown |
|-----|--------------------------------------|------------|
| 57 | Elaan of Troyius | 12/1/94 |
| 71 | Whom Gods Destroy | 19/1/94 |
| 70 | Let That Be Your Last Battlefield | 26/1/94 |
| 72 | The Mark of Gideon | 2/2/94 |
| 69 | That Which Survives | 9/2/94 |
| 73 | Lights of Zetar | 16/2/94 |
| | <i>Postponed because of Olympics</i> | 23/2/94 |
| 75 | Way to Eden | 4/3/94 |
| 76 | Requiem for Methuselah | 11/3/93 |

STAR TREK VII

• William Shatner attended both days at Creation Con 29th/30th Jan 1994. Although nothing definite about the film (STVII) was

said, Bill did say he was concerned about the fact that only a few original cast members have been approached to appear in it. He was miffed about the way he was given the script for it. He went to his mailbox one day and found a buff envelope there with the script inside but no letter and no note, just the script. (info Jennifer Cobbing)

• Leonard Nimoy - High Trek 14/1/94 states that Leonard will not direct the new film. Other reports state that he will not appear in the film. According to the Daily Mail 10/1/94, Nimoy blamed 'creative differences' for his decision to bow out. "The story doesn't work for me," he said. But insiders claim that Nimoy was unhappy because Spock had been reduced to a bit-player.

This is also reported in the National Enquirer 8/2/94.

An article in an LA paper said that Leonard Nimoy has turned his back on the movie and wants Bill to do the same. The article also said the Bill may sign but only if he gets a good role in the movie.

• "Kirk Bites the Dust in Star Trek Blockbuster" Globe 4/1/94.

This has a sneak preview of the film which is reportedly "substantially accurate" for the films 1st draft. Briefly:

Kirk and the rest of the retired original crew are taking a voyage on a new Enterprise. The Enterprise answers a distress call from the Lakul, a ship being destroyed by an energy ribbon; they rescue 47 crewmembers including Guinan and the mysterious Dr. Soran - but Kirk vanishes.

78 years in the future the Romulans are attacking an observatory commanded by Soran. The Enterprise drives off the Romulans.

Picard is moody and tells Deanna that his brother has died. Meanwhile the crew discovers Soran is secretly working with two

evil Klingon sisters, Lursa and B'Etor, who want to use trilitium to recapture their empire. Guinan tells Picard that Soran is obsessed with using the energy ribbon as a doorway to return to a special place called the Nexus. They are horrified to discover that his plan to shoot a probe into the ribbon will wind up destroying a planet with 200 million people living on it.

After the Enterprise takes on the Klingons, both ships are ruined.

Picard chases Soran, who reveals the nexus is a place where time stands still.

Meanwhile the rest of the crew plot to use the sisters sexual desire to get kids off the planet in a shuttlecraft. Data seduces B'Etor but then limps back and his arm falls off. Geordi uses Data's circuits to fix the shuttlecraft.

Soran's plan works but the planet isn't destroyed - it's inside the Nexus. Guinan tells Picard he can go to any time in history. Picard wants another chance to stop Soran but admits he needs help. Guinan says she knows just the man.

It's Kirk! He wasn't dead, he was in the Nexus. Kirk and Picard travel back in time and jump Soran. Picard kills Soran but Kirk has been blasted in the fight. Kirk smiles and says, "It was fun." He dies and Picard buries him.

The crew mourns the loss of their ship, but the crew looks ahead.

[Janet: Personally I hope there is no truth in this plot line.]

STAR TREK: VOYAGER

The following is taken from an interview with Rick Berman in the US STOFM Magazine 95.

ST:Voyager is being developed by Rick Berman, Michael Pillar and Jeri Taylor. The series will start shooting in the fall of '94 and be screened starting in January '95.

The USS Voyager will be a new class of starship, smaller than the Enterprise, with a crew of 200. With a few exceptions there will be no families on board.

The two-hour premier episode will deal with a situation where the Voyager is in a relatively routine mission looking for someone that they have planted on another ship that is crewed by a group of people called the Maguis - a group comprised of well-meaning ex-Starfleet officers and others who have formed somewhat of a renegade, vigilante group to combat Cardassian raids and attacks on Federation planets along the Cardassian/Federation border.

The group is taking the law into its own hands and the Federation needs to stop it. The two ships find themselves transported to a portion of space at the edge of the galaxy - a distance that would take 70 or 80 years at Warp 10 to get home. The crews join together and begin to search for a way home. But in the interim, they will be exploring and gathering information for Starfleet.

Amongst the crew is:

A middle aged Vulcan in his late 50s.

A half-Human/half-Klingon woman who is somewhat repelled by her Klingon traits.

A native American who come from a colony that was founded in the 23rd century by Southwestern Indians from the United States who decided to retain their cultural identity by forming a colony on the Cardassian border. This is a gentleman who left that colony and returned to Earth to attend Starfleet. He becomes a very pivotal and unique character.

A holographic character who works among our crew but is limited to the holodeck.

An Asian-American who is fresh out of the Academy.

A captain who is Human.

Two characters who are going to be a couple who are from two different species we have not seen before. They come from the area of space that Voyager finds itself in. The woman is from a species that has a remarkably short life span of only eight or nine years, and they have a different

appreciation of life and time than we do.

A young Human officer who was dishonourably discharged and is brought back into Starfleet because he has information about the renegades.

The last episode of TNG will not be an introduction to ST:Voyager. However, there are elements to the back-story of ST:Voyager that will be sprinkled into both TNG and DS9 before the end of the season.

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The following is extracted from faql.rec.arts.startrek.new-series on the Computer Bulletin Board.

20 November 1993 Omaha, Nebraska convention: Richard Arnold said that ST:VOY will start shooting August 1994 for a January 1995 start. Many of the characters will appear in an upcoming episode of TNG called "Lower Decks", watch for it. The TNG sets will be redressed for ST:VOY and redressed for the Movies.

26/27 November 1993 New York City Creation convention: Patti Yasutake (Nurse Alyssa Ogawa) and the female Bajoran cadet (Cadet Second Class Sito played by Shannon Fill) that was introduced in "First Duty" are supposed to spin-off over to the new series. ST:VOY sets are being built. Richard Arnold said he believes that Gene would not approve ST:VOY because of the flawed Starfleet officers. And ST is about the search for new life (to go where no one has gone before)—not a trip back home. Lolita Fatjo concurred.

Late January 1994: Info from a convention (location unknown) reports that the starship will be Voyager class with a crew of 220. It will be on its maiden voyage on a mission to hunt down a group of renegade Starfleet officers out in the Badlands, an area on the Cardassian border somewhere. Voyager finds the the officers and in the ensuing space battle, both ships somehow are thrown a loong distance from explored space. The show is basically going to be about them getting back. They haven't cast any parts yet because they want to start with the captain and then revolve around that. Sito Jackson

(from "The First Duty" the TNG episode where Wes Crusher's team is on trial for the death of their classmate is going to be on the new series as the same character.

30 January 1994 Los Angeles Creation con: Lindsay Wagner is being *very* seriously considered for the role of the captain in ST:Voyager. If she does not get the part, the casting people will be looking for someone who is a Lindsay Wagner "type" for the captain's role. The role of the captain of the renegade ship will go to a Native American (it was previously going to be the captain of the Voyager).

STAR TREK **THE NEXT GENERATION**

Gates McFadden will direct the episode Genesis, in which a virus causes denizens of the Enterprise to de-evolve. The idea of the crew members in various primitive states - insects, reptiles, etc - delights McFadden no end. "The possibilities are tremendous", she says. McFadden is only the second woman director in the show's history.

STING - 7TH SEASON

Star Trek: The Next Generation.
Season 7 Broadcast Schedule.
Compiled By Edwin Yau.

Date = Date of satellite uplink.

Episode List-

| Date | Episode & Title |
|----------|--------------------------|
| 08/01/94 | #264 The Pegasus |
| 15/01/94 | #265 Homeward |
| 29/01/94 | #266 Sub Rosa |
| 05/02/94 | #267 Lower Decks |
| 12/02/94 | #268 Thine Own Self |
| 19/02/94 | #269 Masks |
| 26/02/94 | #270 Eye of the Beholder |
| 19/03/94 | #271 Genesis |
| 26/03/94 | #272 Journey's End |

A Short Episode Synopsis:-

#264 The Pegasus: Directed by LeVar Burton, the Romulans are back and it is explained why the Federation doesn't have cloaking device technology. Riker will also reunite with his former Captain, now an admiral, who orders him to hide the real purpose of a risky mission from Picard. You will also see the USS Pegasus - the ship Riker first served on after graduating from Starfleet Academy.

#265 Homeward: Worf's Human foster brother, Nikolai, a Federation cultural liaison officer, appears. He has violated the Prime Directive by getting involved with a doomed alien race that's not part of the Federation in an effort to save them, and Worf is surgically altered by Dr. Crusher and attempts to rescue his brother.

#266 Sub Rosa: Directed by Jonathan Frakes, Dr. Crusher returns to the terraform colony where her grandmother of 102 years old lives. She is haunted by a terrifying stranger, and struggles to escape his deadly clutches. Will his seductive power take possession of Dr. Crusher?

#267 Lower Decks: An episode that is rumoured will tie in with Star Trek: Voyager! An urgent mission tests the courage of four young cadets, forcing one to put her life on the line in a daring rescue with no hope of return.

#268 Thine Own Self: Having completely lost his memory, Data is stranded on a primitive planet where the inhabitants fear he is carrying a deadly plague.

#269 Masks: While an 87 million year old alien archive transforms the Enterprise into its ancient society, Data is taken over by several different personalities from the extinct civilization, and Picard must try and bring him back.

#270 Eye of the Beholder: While experiencing empathic visions after an officer's mysterious suicide, Troi becomes romantically involved with Worf, but seems to get jealous very easily.

#271 Genesis: Plot unknown.

#272 Journey's End: Wil Wheaton returns, this time in a bigger Wesley role than his cameo in "Parallels". Written by Ron Moore, it will involve the Traveller once again. Unsubstantiated rumours suggest a more sinister Wesley...

STAR TREK DEEP SPACE NINE

April brings a DS9 episode featuring William Campbell, Michael Ansara and John Colicos, who reprise their classic Trek roles as Koloth, Kang and Kor respectively. The trio of old Klingons attempt to overtake DS9. (info High Trek 18/2/94.)

Star Trek: Deep Space Nine.
Season 2 Broadcast Schedule.
Compiled By Edwin Yau.

Date = Date of satellite uplink.

Episode List-

| Date | Episode & Title |
|----------|----------------------|
| 01/01/94 | #431 Rivals |
| 08/01/94 | #432 The Alternate |
| 29/01/94 | #433 Armageddon Game |
| 05/02/94 | #434 Whispers |
| 12/02/94 | #435 Paradise |
| 19/02/94 | #436 Shadow Play |
| 26/02/94 | #437 Playing God |
| 19/03/94 | #438 Profit and Loss |
| 26/03/94 | #439 Blood Oath |

A Short Episode Synopsis:-

#431 Rivals: Quark's empire is threatened when Martus, a charming and shrewd swindler arrives on DS9 and opens up Club Martus in an attempt to put him out of business. Can Quark con a con man?

#432 The Alternate: Odo's mentor arrives on DS9 intent on resuming his search for Odo's true origin, but why does havoc follow him?

#433 Armageddon Game: Bashir and O'Brien help two alien races destroy a dangerous biological weapon, only to become the next victims to be sacrificed as part of the peace process. Now they must fight for their lives, but is it a struggle they are doomed to lose?

#434 Whispers: O'Brien returns from a security mission to notice that the entire crew has seemingly turned against him.

#435 Paradise: Sisko and O'Brien are stranded on a planet inhabited by Humans who have rejected any form of technology, and the leader of a Utopian society there attempts to seduce Sisko into embracing her way of life.

#436 Shadow Play: Odo and Dax try to solve the mystery of a alien planet whose inhabitants are disappearing without explanation, but are they next?

#437 Playing God: While hosting her first Trill initiate, Dax discovers a tiny, developing universe, which threatens to destroy the station as it expands.

#438 Profit And Loss: Plot unknown.

#439 Blood Oath: Plot unknown.

Other News

It has been stated in the 30 January 94 Los Angeles Creation Con that three of the TOS actors will appear in a forthcoming episode of DS9, but will not be Kirk, Spock or McCoy!

MISC

Viacom has bought Paramount - we've no idea what effect this will have on future plans for Star Trek but it probably means that the Paramount Network will go ahead.

"Technology: To boldly go into PC future - Computers that can be controlled by speech are rapidly becoming reality" Today 11/1/94 Star Trek has a lot to answer for. The popular television show set high expectations for computers that could be controlled by talking to them. Although it has taken a quarter of a century, science fiction is now rapidly becoming reality. Within two years, most personal computers

will come with speakers, a microphone, built-in sound processing, CD-Rom players and operating system-level sound software.

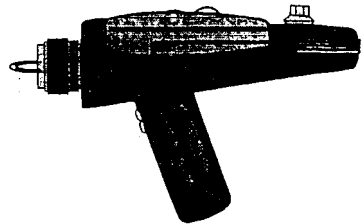
"Scientists: The Trek Generation" Daily Mail 17/1/94. The Next Generation cast have agreed to appear in a video aimed at pupils who find scientific subjects boring. American researchers found that Patrick Stewart was one of the leading models for youngsters studying science. The researchers believe the planned video - awaiting final approval from Paramount - could also benefit youngsters in Britain, where educationalists are worried about the poor take-up of science subjects.

"Church of Spock" Alpha, Christian News.

An American school is offering courses in Klingon. Christian Trekkies should book their holidays in Red Falls, Minnesota, where they can learn the language and attend church services in Klingon and English.

"Beaming up... a human computer" The Mail on Sunday 13/2/94.

Scientists have taken the first big step towards creating an artificial brain. They have found a way of attaching living embryonic brain cells to computer silicon chips. And while no one is actually saying it, the American research could eventually produce a thinking robot similar to the ones seen in the Star Wars films - or even androids like those on TV's Star Trek.





Star Trek IN THE NEWS



compiled by Janet Quarton

The purpose of this column is to let you know which magazines to look out for as well as letting you know some of what has been printed in the papers. Most magazines are available from the book shops in the info sheets and you can often get back issues of newspapers if you write to the publisher.

- **ST THE OFFICIAL FAN CLUB 95** Feb/March 1994. This magazine was always good but it has been revamped to cover more aspects of Star Trek. Articles in this issue include: Star Trek Voyager: Update; Personal Log with Bjo Trimble; Holodeck Adventures - ST Publishing; Interview with Majel Barrett; Jimmy Doohan honoured by the Enterprise CVAN/CVN-65 Association; Data Access - Column by Richard Arnold; Jeri Taylor - TNG executive producer; Dreams Come True - scripts submitted by unengated writers; Deep Space Nine comic; Mission Ops - Inner Light; Federation Archive - article on collecting memorabilia.

- **STARLOG 199** February 1994. Includes articles on Nana Visitor; Jan Shutan who plays Mira Romaine in Lights of Zetar; Robert Hamner who wrote A Taste of Armageddon; and TekWar

- **STARLOG 200** March 1994. This is a special edition. It looks at the 200 Most Important people in Science Fiction and Fantasy. Among those listed are - Radio & TV: Harve Bennett, Rick Berman, Michael Pillar, Gene Roddenberry and Robert Wise. Effects/Music: Jerry Goldsmith and Douglas Trumbull. Actors: DeForest Kelley, Nichelle Nichols, Leonard Nimoy, William Shatner and Patrick Stewart. There are also quite a few writers of Star Trek episodes listed.

- **TV ZONE 51** February 1994. Includes part one of an article on director Paul Lynch; part three of an interview with D C Fontana; and various reviews of Star Trek books.

- **TV ZONE 52** March 1994. Includes an interview with Max Godenichik who plays Rom in DS9; TNG 7th Season 1-12 episode Guide and DS9 2nd Season 1-12 episode guide.

- **TV ZONE SPECIAL #12** - Secret Agents Special. Includes an article on 'Subterfuge in Star Trek' and one on the episode 'Assignment Earth'.

• ST:TNG POSTER BOOKS

Issue 61 - Article on Children of the Enterprise plus episode guides to Perfect Mate and Imaginary Friend.

Issue 62 - Article on The Making of I Borg plus episode guides to I Borg and The Next Phase.

Issue 63 - Article on Season Five plus episode guides to The Inner Light and Times Arrow.

Issue 64 - Article on Dwight Schultz plus episode guides to Time's Arrow II and Realm of Fear.

- **STARBURST 185** Jan 1994. Includes an article on Armin Shimerman who plays Quark in DS9.

- **STARBURST 186** Feb 1994. Includes an article on Nana Visitor who plays Kira in DS9.

- **ST: THE NEXT GENERATION 27** (Starlog) Articles on Robert Hewitt Wolfe who wrote the episode A Fistful of Datas; Carolyn Seymour who played Commander T'Pol in Face of the Enemy; Corey Allen, director; Jeri Taylor, executive producer; Edithe Swensen who wrote Imaginary Friend; plus the episodes, Descent Part II, Liasons, Interface, Gambit parts I & II and Phantasms.

- **ST: DEEP SPACE NINE 5** (Starlog) Articles on Colm Meany (Chief O'Brien); Rene Auberjonois (Odo); Cirroc Lofton (Jake

Siko); Robert Hewitt Wolfe (writer/story editor) plus the episodes The Homecoming, The Circle, The Siege and Invasive Procedures.

"TV Shows like Star Trek make kids better students." National Enquirer 14/12/93.

Purdue University researchers, who surveyed more than 30,000 students from second through 12th grades found that Star Trek and its two spin-offs actually spark kids' imaginations, which is what science is all about. The researchers also found that other science-oriented entertainment also makes youngsters better science students.

"It's life, Jim, but not as we know it" The Herald, 15/1/94.

Excellent article by member Chris Boyce, about ST fandom, The Glasgow Conventions, the Away Team and KAG. He also gives a IDIC a mention.

"Days of Future Past" TV Guide 15/1/94.

Patrick Stewart and the rest of the TNG cast ponder the final season of TNG coming to an end. Stewart is philosophical, "There comes a time when you've given all you can to a project, and I've liked to roam from job to job," he explains. "I'm now ready to tackle different kinds of work." Virtually everyone involved in TNG seems to share his view. "I reached the apex of Worf about three years ago, and around that time I - and Patrick, too, I think - started counting down," says Michael Dorn. Adds McFadden: "This experience has changed all of us in a really positive way, but by now we're all excited about the prospect of new things."

Backbytes Computing 3/2/94

Sun Microsystems' subsidiary Sunsoft held a presentation with a heavy-handed Star Trek theme running through it. The event was held at Planet Hollywood.

IBM also has a penchant for Star Trek, but seems to prefer the Next Generation. IBM has codenamed OS/2 2.1 "The Borg" and OS/2 for Windows "Ferengi".

"Star Trek boldly goes across the sci-fi frontiers" The Independent 22/2/94

An analysis of Star Trek has revealed how the shows have become more scientifically

sophisticated but less optimistic than in the Sixties.

Although scientific ideas have matured since the series first began in 1966, science itself is viewed with more circumspection, said Natalie Foster, a research chemist.

"Beer me up, Scotty. It's a pub, Jim, but not as we know it!" The Sun 24/2/94

Bob Benton, the landlord of Pages Bar, near the House of Commons in Westminster, London, has based his bar on Star Trek. The bar is decorated with photographs of Star Trek characters and a model of the Enterprise hangs from the ceiling. Bob says, "Some of the fans are the last you'd expect. We have one gentleman who comes dressed as a Klingon and can speak the Klingon language - and he works for the Home Office."

"Why Star Trek was not so far off beam" Daily Telegraph.

At a meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in San Francisco, Dr Natalie Foster, a chemist, said that the most interesting changes in technology on the Enterprise from the first TV series to TNG are those which reflect advances in knowledge in the gap between the two.

Prof Yoji Kondo, head of the Ultraviolet Explorer Satellite programme said he was very impressed by the futuristic but solidly-based technical and scientific devices on the Enterprise.

But Dr Hal Coyle, of Harvard-Smithsonian Centre in Astrophysics told the conference that the Enterprise sometimes does things which are totally fantastic like accelerating from Earth orbital speed to Warp Five, which is 125 times the speed of light. Even if this was possible, it would tear the ship to pieces.

"Education... the final frontier" New Scientist 26/2/94.

Another report of the meeting of the AAA in San Francisco says that Star Trek's educational role was explored. At Star Trek interactive science exhibit, in which children meet on the bridge of the Starship Enterprise and experience science hands-on, is selling out at San Francisco's California Academy of Sciences. Meanwhile Harry Kloor at Purdue University in Indiana is collaborating with Paramount studios to

design science materials for schoolchildren based on Star Trek stories. And Nobel prize-winning physicist Leon Lederman hopes that

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he and other scientists will soon be writing a science page for children in Star Trek comics.



Cast & Crew NEWS



FAN MAIL

• Fan Mail - Try actors' clubs first, especially with gifts! Mail sent to Paramount may not reach addressee. When writing to an actor always enclose a self-addressed envelope and an International Reply Coupon (available at main Post Offices).

Send TNG/DS9 mail to Paramount Pictures, 5555 Melrose Avenue, Los Angeles CA 90038, USA.

Send Classic/Movie Mail to Lincoln Enterprises, POB 691370, West Hollywood, CA 90069, USA.

Exceptions:

Nichelle Nichols, c/o Jim Meehan, AR-WAY Prod., 22647 Ventura Bl, #121, Woodland Hills, CA 91364, USA.

Grace Lee Whitney, POB 69, Coarsegold, CA 93614, USA.

Robert Justman, POB 491008, Los Angeles, CA 90049-9008, USA

• Gene Roddenberry - two major authorized books about Gene are coming to the bookstands this summer:

Yvonne Fern's "The Last Conversation with Gene Roddenberry, Creator of Star Trek" is being published by the University of California Press. This Academic book features a glimpse into Gene's mind, and exploration of his thoughts on life in a wide ranging conversation with the author. In a world of gossip, lies and distortions, this book shines with integrity. It is beautiful. It is real. It is Gene.

"Star Trek Creator, the authorized biography of Gene Roddenberry" by David Alexander will be available from Penguin Books. This long awaited landmark book, a comprehensive look at Gene's life and the true behind the scenes story of how Star Trek came to be, is insightful, revealing and highly entertaining. Gene trusted David to write a

thorough and honest biography and David has delivered.

(From Majel Barrett, via Ernie Over)

• William Shatner's TekWar has opened to great reviews. The effects are said to be spectacular and one of the networks has bought the rights to the series. Bill directed the first TV movie and feels that after STV (and the hassle he received on his movie directorial debut, through no fault of his own) he has redeemed himself. The second TV movie aired in the States on 16th January. (info Jennifer Cobbing)

William Shatner plays an exiled dictator in an episode of SeaQuest DSV. (info High Trek 18/2/94)

"Life has been such a Trek" Yorkshire Evening Press 14/1/94. Full page article about William Shatner. It mentions disparaging remarks made about him by some of his co-stars but says, Shatner looks 20 years younger than his age, which he claims is due to horse-riding and clean living. "They say the outside of a horse is good for the inside of a man, and I don't drink or smoke. I don't choose to abuse my body."

"The Trek to Tek" TV Guide 15/1/94 Article about TekWar on the small screen. Bill directs the show but worries more about the computers than the actors. He admits to being tecnophobic. "I am so flummoxed by this high-tech stuff", he says. "I can't set an electronic watch and my VCR blinks '12.00'. I am totally intimidated."

Bill's wife Marcy is filing for divorce. It is the second failed marriage for both of them. Some papers report that it is an amicable separation but the National Enquirer and

other papers say he has been dating 34-year old Nerine Kidd and that Marcy is after a substantial settlement.

- **Leonard Nimoy** - He directed the film *Holy Matrimony*, which will open in the States in March. Later this year his voice will be heard in *The Pagemaster*, an animated/live-action film starring Macaulay Culkin.

- **James Doohan** - On September 8, 1993, Jimmy traded in his Starfleet uniform to wear a blue blazer emblazoned with a golden crest. Embroidered on the crest is the motto of the Royal Canadian Artillery. Jimmy Doohan rose to the rank of Captain in the Royal Canadian Artillery and participated in the battle of D-Day - he was tossed by violent seas, bombed by Germans and shot eight times in the hand and leg. For this heroism, Jimmy was honoured by the Enterprise Association and made an honorary crew member of the nuclear aircraft carrier, U.S.S. Enterprise (CVN-65).

Jimmy was present with a plaque and a documents which reads, 'This is to certify that Jimmy Doohan, in the finest tradition of the United States Navy, has on September 8, 1993, become recognized by the Commanding Officer, U.S.S. Enterprise CVN-65, as an Honorary Crewmember. Signed: Captain Daniel C. Roper. (info US STOF 95)

- **Majel Barrett** reports that her house suffered some damage from the big earthquake but thankfully no one in the household was injured. Lincoln Enterprises was very near the epicenter of the quake, but aside from a big clean-up job, Lincoln escaped serious damage. Majel is touched that so many fans were concerned over her fate.

Majel appears in a film called *Teresa's Tattoo*, which will be released on the big screen soon. Majel will also be doing a one hour show on the QVC Network in the States on April 12th. Several Lincoln Enterprises jewellery items will be on sale that night.

Majel has been working hard on promoting the United States Space Station and other NASA projects, and will be speaking to three scientific conferences this year alone on those topics. Her talks discuss

how Gene's hope for a space-faring world, manifested in *Star Trek*, is now being played out by the various space programs and that it's critical that these programmes progress so that Gene's vision will be realised. (info Ernie Over)

- **Jonathan Frakes** and his wife **Genie Francis** are expecting their first child in August. (info High Trek 18/2/94)

- **Avery Brooks** "The Private Commander" TV Guide 15/1/94. Interview with Avery Brooks. He refuses to get involved in comparisons between Shatner, Stewart and himself. He says he has no time to make personal appearances.

- **Siddig El Fadil** - DS9 has been everything Sid expected and more, mostly because the young actor expected absolutely nothing at all. "It's really the first thing I've ever done, in terms of a serious serial work in America, so I didn't know what to expect."

Sid turned 28 last November. He was born in the Sudan, Africa, and moved with his family at age 2 to London, where he was reared. (High Trek 31/12/93)

- **Colm Meaney** has won a Golden Globe nomination as Best Lead Actor in a musical or comedy for his work in *The Snapper*. (Info High Trek 21/1/94)

- **Michael Westmore** is makeup supervisor for TNG and DS9 and he has created hundreds of futuristic humanoid and alien characters. He supervises a staff of two makeup artists and three hairstylists on *Next Gen*, four makeup artists and four stylists on DS9.

Westmore is 54. He has won an Oscar for *Mask* (1985) and two Emmys for *next Gen*. (High Trek 21/1/94)

- **Jeri Taylor**, executive producer of TNG, joined the show's writing staff in 1990. She knew nothing about *Star Trek*. Her first assignment was to co-write the script for the 4th-season episode *Suddenly Human*, so she buried herself in videos of every *Trek* classic episode and film, as well as all the *Next Gen* episodes to date. She says it wasn't easy, but maybe, not having any preconceptions

whatsoever about Star Trek, she was able to bring some kind of fresh perspective to it.

After completing Suddenly Human, Taylor was invited aboard as a staff writer and was later promoted to producer.

Over the years the Indiana native has brought a feminine touch to Next Gen,

helping to focus more on Beverly and Deanna. She has also created romances for all the regular characters and explored such family issues as death, father-son relationships and reunions.
(info High Trek 4/2/94)



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MERCHANDISE



compiled by Janet Quarton

• BOOK UPDATE

The following list of proposed books is from TV Zone 51/52 and is subject to change.

Mar STTNG: Sarek by A.C. Crispin h/b
STTNG 29: Sins of Commission by Susan Wright.
Best of STTNG Graphic Novel.

Apr ST 69: Patrician Transgression by Hawke.
Star Trek Encyclopedia by Michael & Denise Okuda.
STDS9 Young Adult 2: Stowaways by Brad Strickland.
ST: Mudd's Angels

May STTNG 30: Debtor's Planet by Thompson
STDS9 Betrayal by Louise Tilton

June ST 70: Lost Years #3 Traitor Winds by L A Graft
Starfleet Academy 4: Capture the Flag by John Vornholt
STTNG Last episode novelisation (TBA)
ST Adventure 6: Trek to Madworld by Stephen Goldin

July ST Shadows on the Sun by Michael Jan Friedman.

STTNG: Q-Squared by Peter David h/b?
Aug STTNG 31: Foreign Foes by David Galanter
Starfleet Academy 5: Atlantis Station
ST Adventure 7: Planet of Judgement by Joe Haldeman.

Sept STDS9 7: Warchild by Esther Freisner.
ST 71: Crossroads by Barbara Hamley.

Oct STTNG: Requiem by Friedman & Ryan.
* Star Trek Coffee Table Book by Gene Roddenberry.

STDS9 Young Adult 3: Prisoners of Peace by John Peel.

Nov STTNG Dark Mirror by Diane Duane
STDS9 8: Anti-Matter by John Vornholt
The Making of STDS9 by Gar & Judith Stevens.

ST Adventure 9: Fate of the Phoenix by Marshak & Culbreath.

** [Janet: I was interested to see Gene's coffee table book listed. This is a provisional list so I don't want to get my hopes up, but I really do want to see this book published.]*

• VIDEO UPDATE

7th March

TNG 77 - Descent II/Liasons

DS9 11 - Homecoming/Circle

5th April

TNG 78 - Interface/Gambit Pt I

DS9 12 - The Siege/Invasive Procedures

9th May

TNG 79 - Gambit Pt II/Phantasms

DS9 13 - Cardassians/Melora

23rd May

TNG 80 - Dark Page/Attached

DS9 14 - Rules of Acquisition/Necessary Evil

6th June

TNG 81 - Force of Nature/Inheritance

DS9 15 - Second Sight/Sanctuary

Volume 11 of DS9 has a special offer of a map of the Trek Universe. This has been done with Stuart Clarke (who writes for TV ZONE) and Richard Arnold and cross references every planet ever mentioned in classic Trek, TNG or DS9. The poster is A1

full-colour and is going to cost only £1.50 inc p&ep. (info George Haggarty).

• **TREKKIE HEAVEN** - PC Zone March 1994

This year promises to be heaven for games playing fans of Star Trek, with no less than four new products destined to emerge.

Interplay's Star Trek 25th Anniversary Enhanced CD-ROM should be available by the time you read this.

Star Trek The Next Generation gets a double look-in, courtesy of Spectrum Holobyte and Paramount Interactive. A Final Unity from Spectrum Holobyte puts you in charge of the Starship Enterprise on a quest for the fifth scroll. You must manoeuvre the Enterprise through 3D space and beam Away Teams down to the planets. Set on the Enterprise and with a vast amount of space to explore, this promises to be a gripping game.

Paramount Interactive's title is not a game, but an interactive technical manual. Star Trek Interactive Technical Manual: Enterprise 3D lets the user take 3D tours of the Enterprise. Based on manuals prepared by the series production team, this is the ultimate piece of software for the Trekkie.

Paramount Interactive is also planning a CD game based on the recently introduced Deep Space Nine series. ST DS9: The Hunt will be a role playing adventure in which the protagonists will have more fully developed personalities than usual, enabling them to carry out realistic conversations throughout the game.

• **A.H. Prismatic** have brought out some new holographic products for classic Trek, TNG and DS9. Coming soon are some new 3D products for Classic Trek and DS9, including keyrings, badges, lasergram postcards and desk-top Holograms. Keep your eyes open for these.

• **ST:TNG COLLECTORS CHESS SET.**

This is a beautiful set of hand-painted pewter sculptures. Picard is King and Troi is Queen; Riker and Data are Bishops, Worf and Geordi are Knights; the Enterprise is the rooks and security guards the Pawns. On the other side: Q and Sela are King and Queen, a Romulan is a Bishop, Daimon Goss a Knight, Lore is a Bishop or a Knight, the Romulan Ship the Rook and the Borg the Pawns. The pieces cost £29.50 each payable monthly - total £944. This is a lovely chess set for the TNG fan who can afford it. Franklin Mint, Bromley Road, London SE6 2XG.

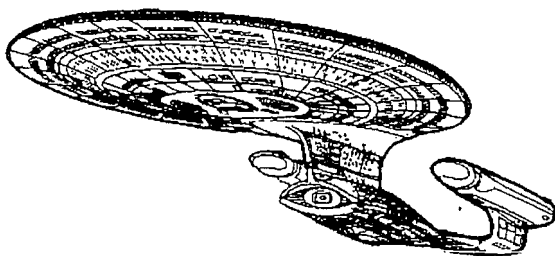
[Janet - As a Classic Trek fan my complaint is, Why wasn't the Classic Trek Chess Set like this? It was in gold and silver plated pewter and there is no comparison - except the price is the same.]

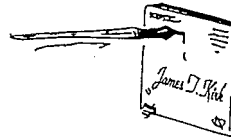
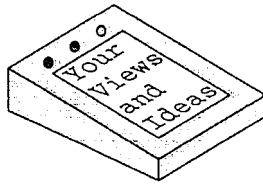
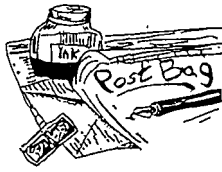
• **STAR TREK-THE MOTION PICTURE WORLD PREMIERE ANNIVERSARY MEDAL.**

Franklin Mint, Bromley Road, London SE6 2XG. This medal celebrated the 15th Anniversary of ST-TMP. According to the literature there is a sculpture of the USS Enterprise NCC-1701-A on one side, as seen for the first time in this film. They must be missing Richard Arnold as the Enterprise 1701-A didn't appear until STIV. £150 in silver, £39 in pewter.

SEGA MEGA DRIVE - ST:TNG

This will be released here around April. The 24 Meg action/adventure game will enable you to command the USS Enterprise in several types of game play, woven into intriguing story lines. The on-board computer contains knowledge found in several Trek Manuals. It also has good graphics and sound effects taken from the series. Price £40 - £50. (info Nanaki Kaur)





We welcome your letters of comment and discussion for this section on the understanding that they will be printed and may be edited for length or content at our discretion.

Some pointers: When referring to anything in a previous n/l make it clear what you are talking about for those who do not have that newsletter.

Keep your letters as short as possible - a maximum of 700-750 words or one of 'our' pages. If you find this impossible consider whether you should be writing an article instead. Longer letters will be edited for length. Where more than one person responds to a question with similar answers we may edit out some of these just so that we can get more in the newsletter.

We encourage active discussion, but please try to avoid negative and aggressive letters. If you make a request which requires members to write to you please give your address.

Keep letters on a separate sheet from other submissions and put 'for postbag'.

• Chris Boyce - Glasgow

Okay, let's go:

To Maria Nausch - Glad the bear's gonna be at Contagion '94, Maria. I can hear the cries already of 'Ursa berr ther!' 'Ursa berr?' 'Aye. Ursa berr ther!' And I'll stop by for a quick tickle and a 'Hello'. See you there, pal!

To Alan Stephen - C'mon, Alan, comics are literature. They may not be Literature but they are literature. My feelings say some are deserving of the cap L every bit as much as the poetry, the books and dramas that usually earn it. But then I've been reading the Dandy since 1947 (when Korky was on the front page). Those who dismiss comics as creampuff have neither interest in nor

knowledge of the field. Of course they may have looked at a couple of comics in the remote past. Didn't think much of them, so condemned all the rest. Wonder how much they liked their first couple of sips of wine? Hated the stuff myself but took to it by the sixth bottle. If they, on the other hand, don't have enough of the old bottle to walk over to the comic shelves in Forbidden Planet or wherever and check out what's happening with a few good recommendations that's their loss, so who cares. Ho hum.

To Marysia Kolodziej - All male androids? Look at Metropolis, the start of it all. Fritz Lang's android replacement for Maria - Rottwang's fiendish creation is a stunning example of the android at work - and boy, could she/it work! And are we not, perchance overlooking a certain Classic Trek episode where the Enterprise is taken over by an android who wheeeechs them all back to his planet heavily populated with androids of both 'genders'.

But then I've told you all this already.

To Sheila Clark & Adam North - Nobody can hear in a vacuum. Space is not a vacuum. The myth that no-one can ever hear anything in space is just that, a myth. Take, for example, an explosion: hot gases are expelled at an extremely high velocity - no air resistance - and when that expanding shell of gases and other matter, effectively a shockwave wave travelling faster than sound, hits your ship you'll certainly 'hear' the explosion! Crossing the exhaust gases of another vessel will allow you to 'hear' that vessel as well.

And did someone actually say DNA has no language carrying capabilities - or maybe I was just hallucinating. Trekged out, maybe...

• Gloria Fry - Glasgow

After all my complaints about the pro-novels I finally read the best one for years in 'The Great Starship Race' by Diane Carey. Although the premise is rather shaky it was a good read and I was pleased to get her other book 'Best Destiny'. The parts which took place after the events of ST6 were well done but Kirk's early life - for me - left much to be desired. The sixteen year old Jimmy Kirk is portrayed as a gang leader, a brat who has poor grades in school, and thoroughly obnoxious. The narrative was full of slang and phrases which I am sure the Scotpress editors would have had a field day with. The zine - A Legend Begins - about Kirk's younger life by Barbara Ellams is far more plausible, taking as it does from the hints in the series and from Gene's TMP book. At the end of the day one person's meat is another's poison. e.g Marysia Kolodziej listed "Entropy Effect" as a book to avoid, yet in my opinion is one of the best ST novels ever written. A few of her essential books - "How Much for Just the Planet!", "The Lost Years" leave me cold.

To Linda Harrod - The Leonard Nimoy convention held in Nottingham would be an ideal one for you, especially as you seem to be a Spock fan. You might obtain your recordings there. Also to be recommended is Contagion in Glasgow. There is always a friendly atmosphere, and the last two conventions have had George Takei and Nichelle Nichols as guests.

To Rory Smith - I also have noticed the similarity between "Sea Quest" and ST. I think it is mainly due to the naval terminology used in both.

Thanks to those who responded to my comments about the double standards concerning the ages of the crews. The comment about the ages of some of the naval captains of today is true, so why should it be different in a future where Humans are likely to live much longer. Also if one looks at the other captains seen in Kirk's time, Matt Decker - although he is a commodore, he still captains a ship - or Captain Tracy are both many years older. Kirk is the golden boy of the fleet, the youngest ever to command a

starship. He is the odd one out, not the others.

To Peter Carmody - Your article on Starfleet as a military organisation is well thought out but the main argument against it is that Gene Roddenberry did not envision it as such, and he was - after all - the creator of the whole ST universe. It seems more a quasi-military organisation.

Re - ST-Voyager series. I only hope they pick the right actor for the Vulcan character. I have not seen a 'real' Vulcan outside the original series and movies. Surely they can find someone who will look and sound like a true representative of the most dignified species in all of Star Trek.

• Judith Taylor - Leyland,

70 Lately Road, Leyland, Lancs, PR5 1QR.

To Vegetarian life forms, eating meat is not a primitive custom, humans by nature are omnivores and so should eat both meat and veg; if humans were meant to eat only veg we'd be rabbits. (I do not mean to have a go at what you personally fee, I think that a devout omnivore should put their view across. I myself am all in favour of removing battery farming, I only eat meat that is free range, the animal has a good life before it is humanely killed, if you get my meaning).

To Alan Stephen, the degeneration of today's society is not due to violent films, videos, TV (how would you get Star Trek otherwise?), video games and Rap music (which died out as soon as it came). These have just been scape-goated. We have been feeding our children violence and crime since they were old enough to listen, I mean 'Goldilocks and the three bears' a story of, 1. Breaking and entry, (she enters the house with out permission) 2. Vandalism, (she breaks the chair) 3. Theft (she steals the porridge). And what about 'Little Red Riding Hood, 1. Maiming and killing (the wolf eats the grandmother) or in some cases it's kidnap and imprisonment (the grandmother is locked in a cupboard), 2. Attempted murder (the wolf tries to eat the girl), 3. Cruelty to animals, (the father tries to kill the wolf or in

some cases does). How many of these types of stories would be read to children in the place of violent films and cartoons.

To Kim Fisher - Re Kira, If you look you meet more than Kira: in 'Emissary and Battlelines' you meet Kai Opaka, in 'Progress' you meet three Bajorans who won't move from their moon, and in 'Storyteller' you meet a whole village of Bajorans. If Kira wasn't there then some of the stories would not work.

To Clement Chung, Try the Sheffield Space Centre.

To Stephen Daniels, re LA Law. Diana Muldaur has been in it and I think Gates Mcfadden has been in it too. Re Tasha Yar, I don't think it would be a good idea to bring her back. I found her a little tedious - one minute she's dead then she's alive again, then lo and behold she's back or rather her daughter's back and Tasha is still dead, but she was alive when she should have been dead. Mind you, it just goes to show the quote is right, "Death on Star Trek is never permanent, it's just a mild inconvenience" (Wil Wheaton at a con in 93).

To everyone. In 'The Passenger' you are introduced to a Lt Primmon who is a Security Chief; he states in 'Move Along Home' that he has been in Security for about seven years I think, yet the same guy turns up in TNG episode 'Brothers' as one of Geordi's engineers. Revenge of the clone brothers I think. I suppose by now that everyone knows about ST:Voyager, maybe I'm a little paranoid but isn't a ship that is shot light years into space and has to find it's way back to Earth, and has a holographic crew member sounding a little like Red Dwarf?

To Marie I J Park, Yes I was a little cynical with Descent Pt1 but with good reason. I had only seen Pt1 and I thought it was a really good story, but I found the blaring technicalities really got up my nose. They simply should not have been. Dr Crusher should not have been left in charge of a ship in a potential lethal situation with

only a skeleton crew and over 200 civilians on board, then if there were shuttles and most of the crew searching the area for one errant crew member the Captain, Troi and Geordi should not have been able to walk over the next hill and immediately find the Borgs' stronghold. I thought Pt2 was brilliant, and besides Phil Farrand can make a book full of such cynicism. If you wish to continue the 'petty bickering' I will be only too pleased, my address is above.

• Mark Burchell - Horsham

Well, I have been receiving your newsletter for nearly two earth years now, which I must say is a rather good read and worth every credit. Being a guest of the wonderful British Rail whilst commuting to and from Londinium every day, your N/L certainly breaks the monotony for a couple of days as I read and re-read it, each time swearing that this time I WILL write that letter for your postbag as it is without a doubt my favourite section.

To Michael Sadler - Re Tü Borg Lager is an alien drug [N/L 31] After reading this suggestion, I decided in the interests of scientific research and planetary security, to boldly go out and try out your theory and consumed a random number of cans of this said drug. Indeed, I did notice upon reaching for can number 42 [an irrelevant number], that standing was futile, that time was indeed irrelevant and that a curry would have to be assimilated. Mind you I also noted that it tasted like Hydraulic Fluid.

Whilst on the subject of Borgs in the UK, I found an advert in a PC magazine for BORG DATA TRANSPORTERS. Does this mean they are already assimilating our data?

To Kim Fisher re DS9 and Major Kira; everyone is entitled to their opinion, but I must side with Edward Woo; the more I see of Kira, the better she gets. I find her one of the strongest female characters we've seen in a long time (since Tasha Yar). As for being stubborn, I think that it's more not being afraid to stand up for what she believes in.

Whilst still on the subject of DS9

Characters (Commander Disco, the Disco Kid, Daz, Omo, Major Kiora, Quack, Egg Nogg, Chief O. Brian and Doctor Basher) I do find Dax rather weakly portrayed, for someone who supposedly has 300 years of life experiences. I would have expected someone with more wisdom, insight and general character than we have seen so far.

Also Sisko; I don't wish to put the character down, but where is the spark of life, the fire that makes him a Leader. When I heard Avery Brooks was to be the lead role in DS9 I thought 'great' a good strong personality (any one who has seen him as Hawk in Spencer for Hire will know what I mean). Maybe it is the way his character is written, but I feel he doesn't have that certain 'x' factor that makes him stand out as Kirk and Picard do/did. I believe what I am trying to say is best portrayed in Tapestry and the lesson Picard received from Q.

On a final note, it was nice to read Jean Sloan's report on Janet's talk at Holodeck. It's nice to know our club is in such good and experienced hands. Also the depth of loyalty to an ideal that one such person will follow. Thank you, Janet.

• **Stephen Daniels - Smailholm, Nr. Kelso**

I, like Dave Styles, am glad TNG is coming to an end. I am a huge fan of the show and buy the videos on a regular basis but to twist an old cliché, all good things MUST come to an end. If TNG was to go on and on it would without a doubt become rather worn out and banal - from Edwin Yau's letter (N/L32 p40) it sounds like season 7 is pretty naff as it is. At least finishing it now doesn't leave us thinking what a lugubrious ending it petered out to, and of course we've got some good films to savour in the future. With regard to ST:VOY as it is now called, I hope they cast unknown actors as the principal cast.

To Clement Chung (N/L32 p26) - I too have been reading The Nitpicker's Guide (I won it in a newspaper comp two days after buying one in the shops!) and have noticed, like you, that I do not enjoy the episode as much as I did the first time I saw it because

the errors seem so obvious, and hence detract the effectiveness of the story [Call Stargazer for posters and clothing - (0905) 726259].

To Taruka Quauhtezcatl - I've searched and searched, but I can't see it for looking! Could you tell me on what page of the TNG Technical Manual there is a reference to dolphins?

To Edward Woo (N/L32 p28) - I have only seen 15 episodes of DS9 and from these I just don't feel the same enthusiasm that I do when I watch TNG. I can't explain this feeling, but it's just not there. I watched The Passenger again (randomly picked) just to see if I was being too negative, but I regret to say that the 'possessed' Dr. Bashir was enough to embarrass a four year old, Dax remained as much a nonentity as before, and Sisko pulled my eyelids down like roller blinds.

The four main characters, I consider to be, Kira, Odo, Julian, and Quark. They are the only ones whose personalities I feel I know; O'Brien we already know from TNG, but the setting is wrong - too dark and dingy.

But yes, I concede I did enjoy Babel, the idea of an aphasia virus was a good one.

To Brenda Allan (N/L32 p40) - I'm really scraping the bottom of the barrel to provide a plausible answer to your question of why characters can exist off the Holodeck, if only for just a few seconds. The reason they slowly disappear is that they are actually made of real matter that is being moved around by highly articulated computer-driven tractor beams. When the characters move outwith the Holodeck, the computer is not sure whether it is deliberate, and so the tractor beams reach out the door to try to keep the 'puppet' moving. If the character does not return, the computer will slowly deactivate it so the user can see what is going on, and not just find their characters have disappeared into thin air.

To Anyone - I couldn't believe what I was seeing in the TNG episode 'Second Chances'. TWO Rikers?! This is almost as ludicrous as the 'rejuvenation' plot of 'Rascals'. Where did the transporter suddenly get all the matter to be able to produce two

men, both of the correct mass from the one original?

• Philippa Timms - Isle of Wight

To Dave Styles - Sorry about my rampage last issue. I got somewhat carried away with the comic issue. I was surprised when I read it myself as I had calmed down somewhat since I wrote the letter, the first time I read your article. I assure you it is I who should apologise for the way I flew off the handle.

I have been trying to find someone who produces audio zines. I have not been able to find the resources here on the island; is there anyone who can help point me in the right direction?

To Ann Coulstock - You say that the CIC video DS9 with Emissary and the behind the scenes look was over priced, but you still bought it. As long as people buy the products at that price CIC will not go for the cheaper route of releasing the behind the scenes on their own for a lower price.

In the NG episode Cause and Effect, when the Enterprise first met the ship out of the time hole, the time they did not hit, Picard did not ask the captain what stardate it was for him, but what year. Does this mean that each ship has a personal stardate. Like 4 for the century, 1 for the first year of that ship's mission so on? Like an age identification tag?

• Bryan R Miller - Glasgow

To all - Read the TNG novel The Romulan Prize. It was excellent, had a great plot and the author portrays all the characters at their best.

Does anyone know anything about the ST:TNG computer game for IBM PC by Spectrum Holobyte, as all I know is that it is in production. Also does anyone know about the ST:TNG Virtual Reality game in which a group of players take on a ST mission?

The 2-parter with Worf, season 6 (Birthright) was rather unbelievable, mainly because Klingons are extremely vicious,

cunning and intelligent beings (no offence to KAG!). There is no way the Romulans could have kept them at bay; if disruptors are all that kept them at bay, the Klingons would just have attacked the Romulans (and been killed) for honour, no matter how pointlessly.

Re TNG: Lessons, in which Picard falls in love. I see this as being the man's Achilles Heel, as Q put it. He has been lonely, and no matter what you think he is still only Human. Ever since Vash showed him that he could enter a relationship again, and then never seeing her often, would have left him vulnerable.

To Edward Woo - Re the Federation using cloaking devices, they must for covert work, as in Unification a picture of Spock is taken on Romulus by either a Federation ship or satellite. It couldn't have been by Klingons as Picard would not discuss it with them, and if it had, the Klingon High Council would have caused a storm with it.

To Bernardo Carmo - This is a guide to getting a jump on the Elasi. Get the injured crewman's tools, go to the corridor, pick up the junk, go through the door on the right and stun the Elasi. Use the tricorder on the panel and the bomb. Use Spock on the wires. Use the panel, take the wires and bomb. Use Kirk on the console and talk to the hostage. Note the location of the switch, go to the corridor, use the kill phaser on the welder, then use the welder on the bits of metal, I use this comb bit on the transmogrifier. Use the welder slightly up and to the left of the bridge doors (usually takes a couple of tries). Go to the transporter room, use the transmogrifier on the damaged controls, use the wire on the controls. Use the transporter, talk to the guy in the Captain's chair and respond with choice 1.

Replicators cannot perfectly reproduce anything, irregularities creep in to the materials.

• Mel Daines - Tywyn, Gwynedd

To Ann Gregory - I'm glad to hear you're a devoted fan of Bill's, and that you don't believe the rubbish they print. For the

very few who constantly put him down (and always go out of their way to) there are always many, many more who see him for the great hardworking actor he is. Also I'll pass on your birthday message when I next see or hear him, as he's my sister's daughter's godfather. An additional bonus, hey!

• Matthew Christie - Dundee

I've just read my first newsletter - wow! I didn't know there was so much to talk about - I look forward to many interesting discussions in the future.

To Marysia Kolodziej - I'm on the E-mail system at Napier 'University' and am still trying to suss it out. If I haven't got in touch yet it's because I can't work the stupid thing! However, my number is STU42@NAPIER.CENTRAL.AC.UK (I think!) so drop me a line if you still haven't heard from me!

To Alan Stephen - I only partially agree with your reasons for society's degeneration, that being lack of adequate education and uncaring parents (a product of poor education?). To blame 'video games and rap music' is unfair - educated people can see through the rubbish that is marketed en masse, or at least not be influenced by it. Everyone enjoys a bit of senseless violence on TV from time to time, but it's the easiest influenced (badly educated?) who suffer the most from over-indulgence. As Picard said in The Neutral Zone (season 1) "...the challenge is to improve yourself..." - something the Government should think about when deciding on education spending!?

To Linda Harrod - Virgin Records can obtain any music by Leonard Nimoy. Just ask if it's not in stock and I'm sure they can order it for you. Re conventions - I would thoroughly recommend Contagion '94, however it gives equal bias to ST, TNG, DS9 (this may not be the case for guests, though. Last year we had Nichelle Nichols, Jonathon del Arco and Richard Arnold, ie no DS9) and not the bias towards ST you are looking for. However, you won't be ripped off since there is just so much going on in all areas of Trek that you can pick and choose if you want to

stick to ST all weekend or TNG/DS9 - you will not run out of stuff! I would have paid double this year after the '93 con (but don't tell them that!) Everyone will make you very welcome and there is also a party for newcomers and those on their own, giving you a chance to meet loads of people (1000 attended the Con in '93).

• Arline Lawrie - Ayr

I have just received my first newsletter. I love everything about it, especially the postbag. The bantering between the fans brought a smile to my face, and I also found out some things I didn't know. I especially enjoyed the comments of James Connarty on the NG episode Second Chances (N/L 31). I too feel that this episode brought new life to the relationship between Riker and Troi. I also think that to fully understand this relationship you must read the book Imzadi.

This brings me to the questions asked about Troi's empathic powers. To Gratiennne Vandekerckhove - I think that you should consider reading Imzadi and Nightshade, as they will answer all of your questions.

I am going to my first con this year (Contagion '94) and I am quite nervous about it! If anyone has any good tips on how to survive it please write to me at 37 Mainholm Rd, Ayr KA8 0QN.

• Ann Lindsay Wright - Southport, Merseyside

A Long Day's Journey Into Trek - or there's hope for us oldies yet. It is only lately, at the ripe old age of 34, that I have 'come out' about my long-term passion for Star Trek. Having grown up following the adventures of the Starship Enterprise and her crew, I enjoyed it purely for the adventure factor and the fanciability factor of James T Kirk.

Now as an adult, over the last six years I have become enmeshed in the voyages of the Next Generation and have discovered something I never thought I would in a TV programme; a tremendous enjoyment and feeling of hope for the future in a far from perfect world. As I journey through the

years with Jean-Luc Picard, Will Riker, Data and the others, enjoying their adventures and facing their dilemmas, I believe that Gene Roddenberry's dream of a future without poverty, racism or hatred is possible; maybe not in the near future but as man strives for the stars and beyond and as each new generation turns, our thoughts and feelings will be directed to each other as we realise how important yet insignificant we are.

Whilst indulging in my passion for Star Trek in my adult years I had learned to keep it quiet as non-Trekkers would scoff. I have been lucky enough to marry someone who shares my enjoyment and we attended Warp One in Morecambe this year. I was surprised and delighted to find so many like-minded people. As a result of this I have 'come out' and intend to enjoy as many conventions and join as many clubs as my job will allow.

I would be delighted if anyone would correspond with me about anything in the Trek universe and maybe attend a convention or two. 179 Cambridge Rd, Churchtown, Southport, Merseyside PR9 7LR.

• Sheila Clark - Dundee

To Lesley Arrowsmith (and Taruka and a few others) - I keep reading That Title as 'Prawns and Symbols' - which has to say something!

To Clement Chung - Re Picard's age and when Kirk and Co. retired. Maybe in the 80 years since Kirk retired, the Federation has done a UK Government and upped the retirement age from 65 to 75!

To Michael Farquhar - Re the DS9 uniforms. Hmmm. OK, how about this? The different colour is assigned to land-based personnel who are assigned - in effect, seconded - to work in what is basically a civilian base.

To Gratiennne Vandekerkhove - Re zine lists. You're right, any such list is subjective. It's the same with book lists. However, if the person doing the listing starts by saying what kind of story (s)he likes, it will give you an

idea as to whether you're likely to like what's on the list. We printed a list of recommended books recently, and several of the writer's "must buys" were books I thought were terrible (I won't go into why) - and those of my favourites that were included just got a "quite good".

To Ann Peters - We've discussed this before, a few newsletters ago. Unless the Salt Monster needed trace elements that weren't in the salt tablets, it was being fed and surely knew that the Federation could and would continue to supply it with salt; therefore it must have killed because it wanted to. Compare it with Jacqueline Lichtenberg's Sime/Gen series of novels. The Human race had evolved into two species. The more numerous Gens produced selyn, useless to them, which Simes needed but couldn't produce; but although they could get it via Channels, who could take donations of the stuff without killing, ordinary Simes got 'kill bliss' from killing the donor when they took it, and that satisfied a different kind of hunger, making 'feeding' more satisfying. I suspect Ms Lichtenberg got the idea from the Salt Monster - it could have been fed but chose to kill.

To David J Raper - Re motherhood at 59. If a woman is still fertile (ie producing her own eggs) at 59, OK, but morally I think it totally wrong that technology should be used - indeed, I'd say abused - to let a woman who has passed natural child-bearing age produce a child. If that woman was so keen to have a family, she should have had it when she was 39, not 59. I'm in my late fifties, and personally can't think of a worse fate than having to spend the next few years of my life washing nappies or possibly having to cope with adolescent tantrums when I'm 70!

• Sue Williams - Talbot Green, Mid Glamorgan

I'm renewing my membership for a third year now. I've enjoyed every newsletter, even if I haven't always understood everything that was said! I have learned that if you read on, sometimes over many issues, things can become clearer.

There are often interesting reviews regarding conventions; some are favourable, some are not. As yet I have not been to a con but I'd like to go to one; but like Linda Harrod (N/L 32) I am unsure which one to go to. I also am into Classic Trek, having grown up with Star Trek since its beginning. I know the special effects are not a patch on those we see today but the stories have a meaning and messages within them. The characters have depth and substance. I, like Linda, will be interested to hear what you have to recommend and why.

To Gaile Wood - You're right, I never would have thought that I could feel embarrassed over an episode, but I was cringing too over Plato's Stepchildren. Wasn't it awful! And wasn't Mr Spock put through an embarrassing ordeal in And The Children Shall Lead?

To Gordon Smyth who wanted to know what people's favourite episodes were, I like them all and it's so hard to choose, but here are a few.

1 For The World is Hollow and I Have Touched the Sky

2 Is There in Truth No Beauty?

3 Journey to Babel

4 Return of the Archons

5 The Man Trap

I don't think anyone can leave out The Trouble With Tribbles - it was very funny.

My only regret is that I didn't discover the world of fan clubs years ago. Life's all about the future anyway. I, for one, thanks to IDIC am going to enjoy every minute.

• Jenny Turner - Birmingham

Starfleet as a military organisation - In answer to Peter J Carmody, of course Starfleet is a military organisation. The entrants to Starfleet Academy are the same as those who go to West Point, etc, now. They wear a uniform and the ships are armed for battle. Okay, the future may be better, with people tolerating races more than they do now, but man is still fighting, so that aspect of man's nature has not changed; they fought the Klingons and the Romulans, Ferengi and now the Borg. We have had two World wars and numerous other wars, and what has man

learned? Not a lot. He is still fighting all over the world. Man will always fight, whether it's in the 21st or the 24th century, I'm afraid.

How I loved the article on Spock by Gloria Fry! I think Spock is a really sexy guy - no wonder the women went for him! Mark you he must have been pretty lonely having to keep up his Vulcan facade all the time. I'm not a Kirk fan but he certainly could charm the birds out of the trees, and he has a really cheeky grin, he wouldn't give up on making a friend out of Spock. I loved the way Spock used to argue with McCoy. I don't think people today can understand what it would be like to mind meld, etc, and have that sort of rapport with anyone. I don't think McCoy was terribly keen! I know Leonard Nimoy must get a bit fed up of people only thinking of him as Spock. He has done other great films, but I will always think of him as Spock, the tall green-skinned sexy Vulcan with the pointed ears!

Re cons - My first con was in 1983, at the Grand in Birmingham. I was VERY shy in those days; I went on my own and I was a bag of nerves! I didn't know anyone, I walked in and got my con pack. Several people spoke to me, but I just mumbled and went bright red! After a few hours I found it easier to relax, then I met a girl called Kathy and we have become friends. It was a nice con and gave me a lot of confidence. I went to quite a few cons over the next three years and gradually my confidence grew. I am much more confident of going into crowded places and meeting people now, and it's all thanks to Star Trek!

• Nanaki Kaur - Birmingham

To Stephen Daniels (P28) - I did notice the Star Trek/LA Law thing - not the cross over of the actors but how Picard and crew continue to serve as judge, arbitrators, prosecution and defence in so many TNG episodes. When the series finishes, they should go into the legal profession, renamed NCC-LAW!

A friend of mine heard that V'ger in ST:TMP was supposed to have been repaired

and rebuilt by the Borg, although they were still evolving then and hadn't had any contact with any 'biological' races yet so they were completely mechanical. Spock called it machine planet. V'ger considered the carbon-based units were not 'true life forms' and infested the Enterprise. The Borg consider biological races are inferior and at first were only interested in the technology. Also V'ger joined with the creator, and the Borg assimilate other races. Any thoughts on this?

• Linda Pengelly - Ivybridge, Devon

To Judith Taylor - Thanks for answering my query re Brent and his guitar. Any chance of a copy of your audio of his American convention that you have? I will pay all costs.

To Jill Clements - I read your article in N/L 32 re The Totally Trek Stand. Yes, I would love you to order me a copy of Ol' Yellow Eyes is Back if you can get hold of one. My address is 8 St Austin Close, Ivybridge, Devon PL21 9BZ, Tel 0752 893928.

• Mrs V Lawrence - Warminster

I am a new member and have been enjoying the newsletters, in particular the readers' letters; the cross section of opinions is great, it just shows how different everybody is.

Re DS9 - I love the music. It is deep and haunting. I am not so sure about the programme; all the different races are good, but it has not 'got it' - there is something missing. I think the Enterprise should join forces with DS9 and be used as the arbiter ship cum protector (or something similar) then there can be a bit of conflict between DS9 crew and Enterprise crew!

To Anne Marie Flowers - Re Lessons (N/L 31) I must admit I would have thought the Captain could have done better. What an insipid character she was! The Captain would have been better off with 'The Perfect Mate'.

Worf is great with his total lack of humour, but he did make my toes curl up in The Perfect Mate when he growled in

response to the Metamorph's overtures. The Klingons are always amusing (to me) and Star Trek would not be right without them.

Dr Pulaski was definitely a more credible Doctor and had a much stronger personality and was much more interesting than Dr Bev Crusher. If only she could return!

The best acting from Deanna was in Face of the Enemy - full marks there, far better than her normal role. When it comes to true professional acting, though, the two who leave the others standing are Patrick Stewart and Brent Spiner. Brent, in Brothers, really showed his ability, the horrible smirks from Lore making one almost loathe him - but his portrayal of Dr Soong was brilliant. As Lore has an implant which was meant for Data surely Lore is going to have some good qualities when he returns, or will they be put to bad ends?

The only episode(s) that left me feeling rather fraught was (were) Chains of Command. PS did a very good job of pain. I must admit I thought he was going to break in the end, and I think there should have been more reference to the trauma of that incident later.

Is there anyone out there who can tell me where I can get a TNG uniform as worn now (mandarin collar) or made at a reasonable price?

• Marysia Kolodziej - Glasgow

Re Galactic directions - how about instead of east and west (turnwise and anti-turnwise) we use turnwise and widdershins like on Discworld (Terry Pratchett)? Leave east and west for planetary directions.

To Martin Helsdon - One of the reasons for staunch supporters of TNG or Original is style of writing. Although I can appreciate a few of the Original episodes, the tongue in cheek 'jokes' at the end always put me off. It is dated. Many of the ideas may be eternal, but the way they are written is not. Back then, a black woman officer was enough to be ahead of its time, but today it

isn't, and you can't tell me that women - and even men - watching today don't cringe when Uhura, a seasoned officer, screams in terror or hides behind the Captain. I enjoy the films and I adore the books, but I can't take the series even though I understand why it's like it is.

To Jo Healy - I must admit a certain attraction to the young Doctor myself. There seems to be a bit of a lack of fanciable males in DS9 - Dr Bashir is the only one I can think of. In TNG you can't move for good-looking guys (in my opinion, anyway).

To Clement Chung - I'd rather have a movie every few years than the series continuing. We've seen what they can do on TV; I'm excited about what they can do on film. In the series everything stays in stasis. The films give more scope for realism - for promotion, death, marriage, etc. We saw this when the original series went into film. Would Spock have died in the series, would Kirk have become an Admiral, would Sulu have gained his own command? I doubt it. Yet these things happen in 'real life'. The films add realism and expansion.

To Dave Styles - What you really ought to do with at least some of the money is either give it to charity or hold a small competition for your group members, using the money to buy prizes.

To Gaile Wood - Unfortunately a scenario of a high number of dependent old people is the end point of development. Without resorting to callous extermination of anyone over 65 we can't prevent this. However, it is not as bad as you think. As medical techniques improve fewer people will be bed-ridden by that age and the result will hopefully be full employment for the lower numbers of younger people and a life of leisure in later life where they can learn and create and explore, using the money the state will be able to give them if we ever succeed in balancing our population at a more logical number - say one billion?

Even if it was RNA used for language acquisition it still wouldn't work, as RNA is

just a copy of DNA using uracil instead of thymine in a single strand and is part of protein synthesis. Doesn't have diddly squat to do with language as far as I know. I wonder, if you transplanted part of one person's brain into another, would you remember things they'd learned? Moot point, really, I know, but interesting to think about.

• Keren Breen - Neath

To Lloyd Lewis - Nice to hear from you again! I owe you a letter from *way* back; have you moved? If so can you give me your new address/phone and I'll be in touch - OK?

Something that's been bugging me for a while is Keiko O'Brien's sudden switch of career. Maybe I'm over-sensitive, but it seems to me that the message being given out is that anyone can be a teacher, provided they have had university-level qualifications in *any* subject. I hung back on going crazy about this, as I thought there might be some mention of Keiko's having studied education or pedagogy in the past. I watched the episode of DS9 in question for such a mention - nothing at all. Does this mean that I can become, say, a botanist without any specialist training? Teaching is *much* more than a simple recitation of facts and wielding the red marking pen. I spent three years in initial training, plus a year's 'probation', plus continued in-service training and I really resent the implication that anyone with a degree can be a teacher. I know some other IDIC members also also teachers - do they share my concern?

Something else that's been buzzing around my brain for a while is the way in which the Klingons and the Romulans are portrayed in TNG. In Classic Trek, the Klingons were a brutal, treacherous lot; you couldn't trust them an inch and they'd sell their own granny to an Orion slave trader if the price was right. The Romulans were alien, spartan and enigmatic but within their own code, strictly honourable. Suddenly the *Klingons* are the honourable ones and the Romulans, devious and untrustworthy. I've always liked the Romulans, especially as portrayed by Diane Duane and D C Fontana,

and I would like to know who the Klingons' PR people are - they're doing a great job!

Re artwork in zines - ScoTpress have been good enough to publish some of my stuff in the past - Sheila and Valerie, have you enough to be going on with or would you like to see some more? *[Sheila - Yes, please! I'll have to check if the computer art examples you sent will print, but we can certainly use more of your art. We're particularly short of Classic Trek artwork at the moment, but the TNG art is running low too.]*

Re Lessons - It made me cringe, it really did. The piano was the star, no doubt about it! What really got to me was Picard's line about "Why did you play F sharp instead of B flat?" (I'm NOT going to watch it again for the exact wording!) I wanted what's-her-name to tell the TRUTH, ie it was a WRONG NOTE (trust you to notice, smarty!). However, I loved Frame of Mind, scene-shattering and all, and Face of the Enemy was brilliant.

• Rebekah Owens - Birmingham

To Marie I J Park - many thanks for your intelligent and thought-provoking response to my article. Data is not really proof that Soong was 'right after all' as he is a product of the Starfleet environment and its strong female culture of care and the family, rather than of Soong's essentially male culture of individuality. The consequences of Soong's isolation and male ethic are felt in Lore and *consequently* upon Data in Descent. Its roots are in Lore's own treatment and the way he *now* views the world. Hence Data makes the caring self-sacrifice of shutting down and disassembling his brother because that would serve the common good - according to the female principles by which he has been nurtured. *There was no reason for Soong to disassemble Lore but he did* - as Frankenstein rejected his own creation. Both displayed an implicit rejection of their responsibility to nurture their creation. There is no reason to suppose that someone else would have disassembled Lore if Soong did not - the fact remains: that Soong did it. SPOILER ALERT Juliana, Data's mother in

Inheritance, is also an example of the female ethic of care and self sacrifice in the decision to leave Data when they fled the Crystal Entity. She knew that the consequence otherwise would be another Lore.

I thoroughly enjoyed Patrick in A Christmas Carol in London. Mind you - and close friends disagree with me on this - I didn't think it was that good. Yes, yes! OK! Hold the hate mail! It was a good performance but not a great performance. Patrick has stage presence, grace, agility; the performance was balanced, poised; characterisation was smooth and well-defined. It was good, enjoyable, absorbing. Truly is Patrick Great. I enjoyed seeing Patrick in performance, it was good theatre. Yea, Truly He Is Great. BUT - you want 'spellbound'? See David Calder in The Merchant of Venice. You want 'superb'? Check An Inspector Calls at the Aldwych. ACC was certainly not the ground-breaking presentation of genius I keep hearing about. Yes, Patrick's hard work and dedication pays off and, Thank God, he's determined to retain his connections with theatre, but so do hundreds of other actors currently on the stage.

Incidentally, Patrick sent requests to the waiting fans that he did not wish to sign any Star Trek pictures/photographs. He repeated this request several times but I was rather dismayed to see that a few fans were rude enough to STILL present him with Trek pictures to sign. Patrick was the perfect gentleman and politely reiterated his wish not to sign them, but I found it rather embarrassing.

• Dave Styles - Ashford, Kent

To Ann Coulstock - I agree that the second issue of Emissary was somewhat overpriced, but it's only a con if you pay for it. Personally, and I intend no insult to anyone, I am amazed at the success of ST marketing. Sensible adult people are so easily parted from their money by seeing an 'I Love Star Trek' label stuck to a lump of plastic rubbish. I've been caught so many times myself. I honestly believe that if you were to unwrap a toilet roll, write 'Star Trek'

on each square and roll it up again you could sell this roll at stupendous profit and wouldn't be able to keep up with the demand. Take for example the tacky Pizza Hut Star Trek cups. I'm told a complete set is now worth over one hundred dollars!

To Jill Searle (and anyone else who's shy) - People see me, a big tattooed raucous lump and laugh when I tell them I suffered terribly from shyness. The answer lies in yourself. Have a go at being extrovert; look on it as a form of acting. Most apparently extrovert people that I know are, in truth, putting on a show to cover their own insecurities.

To Sarah Mitchell - I am sincerely flattered that my article prompted you to write to IDIC for the first time. However, I would think it unfair to describe my opinions as inaccurate. Take for example Marysia Kolodziej's guide to which books are OK and which are not. I don't agree with all her choices, but who is to say who is right and who is wrong. Instead, let us agree to differ.

Re DS9 - Well, I think it's brill, especially Dr Bashir. However I do have one or two worries. Basically DS9 is a poor man's Starbase set at one of the galaxy's most strategic points. Why then, as David Raper asks, are the defences of such a poor standard? Also why is the boss only a Commander? Proper Starbases have Admirals and Commodores. Also why are the uniforms different to TNG?

To James Robertson - No-one is paid to organise conventions. The organisers are volunteers just like you were. I would thank you that you did your bit as a steward and I applaud any voluntary worker. I'm sure all of us in IDIC are very grateful to our volunteer committee who publish this newsletter. If you are a bit miffed, then don't volunteer again. However, what would happen if we all felt like that?

To Chris Bailey - Thanks for your letter of support. It does feel that all 1300 members of IDIC are against me!

• Baerbel Schmidt - Ashford, Kent

My brother is visiting me at the moment and he gave me a German article also saying that Kirk will die in ST VII. I must admit that I am no Kirk fan, but I think killing him in the first TNG movie would be a serious mistake. I think that most Classic fans, and definitely the many Kirk fans, would not forgive Paramount for doing this. This would also harm future projects of TNG because these fans will always remember that Kirk died in order to make way for TNG, even if it was not intended to be like that by Paramount. Paramount would also consider the feelings of the Classic fans who also would like to enjoy new adventures with Kirk in upcoming books and comics!

Recently, DS9 also started in Germany and I watched the pilot and the following episode with much interest. The part with Locutus was spoiled by the stiff translation and quite unfeeling German voices, but after this part it got better. I definitely prefer the original, but at least I think the translations of the early DS9 episodes are better than the ones of the early TNG episodes. Also, this time I enjoyed watching the pilot, but now that I know so many more episodes, watching it also saddened me. Sisko was a brilliant, interesting character in the pilot, but after his personal problem was solved he lost his edge. Now Sisko seems to have no faults, no weaknesses, which is unnatural to me. It is the struggle with weakness that makes so many characters interesting and I think it was a serious mistake to rob Sisko of his weakness so completely. I was hoping that Second Sight would remedy that, but it was, instead, the worst episode of the second season so far. It gave absolutely no insights into Sisko.

Concerning ST:Voyager, I already wrote a letter to Paramount. I hope they will cast Suzi Plakson for the character of the half Human/half Klingon woman!

To Edwin Yau - I think dividing the Borg into 3 different factions is a brilliant idea. If the Borg had stayed the way they were, finding good Borg stories would become more and more difficult. Now we

still have the original Borg but also self-aware Borg who can be good - and evil! We have room for surprises within the Borg concept that wasn't possible before. I like Hugh and hope we will see more of his Borg 'tribe'.

• **Stuart Holland - Ayr**

To Alan Stephen - Your definition of literature was not fully correct; the colloquial meaning for literature defines it as 'printed material of any kind'. I know this is a petty point to raise - but hey, just call me Mr Petty!

Your observations on the degeneration of society are typical of people looking for easy scapegoats. My main reservation against these points is quite simple; was society any better before the invention of TV, videos, etc? I am quite sure the Second World War was not started because Hitler played an "Invade Poland" simulation on his personal computer or by listening to Public Enemy on his Walkman! To blame simple media for the problems of society is at best tenuous. It does seem to be in vogue to blame violent films for violent crimes and even the smallest link to a particular film is seized upon with relish. What came first, the chicken or the egg? Did Charles Manson kill Sharon Tate because he had seen one of her husband's films or simply because he was a crazed psychopath? Films and TV can only mirror society. More likely explanations for society's troubles could be unemployment, homelessness, drug addiction, child molestation, rape, murder, etc. Unfortunately I do not have any real answers to the problem. Is the corruption of moral values caused by violent films or explicit lyrics or by the attitude of a society that places more value on a BMW than on a human life? It is a dog eat dog world, and I guess the trick is not to be a dog.

To everyone - If any member has an address for an American video mail order firm, could you please let me know as I would like to buy several films which are unavailable in this country for copyright reasons (eg A Clockwork Orange).

The seventh season of TNG has been

very good, but I believe that it also has some weak episodes. Here is my opinion on each of the first ten episodes.

1 Descent II - I liked this episode, but felt a bit let down after Part I. Perhaps I considered the first episode so good because of shock value.

2 Liaisons was brilliant and one of the funniest episodes ever. Oh, Worf, you make me chuckle!

3 Interface - This was a bit of a stinker. Virtual Reality is an interesting subject, but they managed to make it very dull.

4/5 Gambit I & II - Fantastic stuff, one of my all time favourite double episode. Go on, Will, hit him again!

6 Phantasms - Strange episode. Loved the Freudian slips.

7 Dark Page - Very interesting in a mother/daughter relationship type way.

8 Attached - Usual Trek fodder. Picard gets captured, etc. Only fine acting from Patrick Stewart saves the day.

9 Force of Nature - A bit of a humdinger, in terms of being a bad episode.

10 Inheritance - Real history from the annals of ST folklore. You will find a lot of data about Data.

This has been a good start to the ultimate season. I cannot wait to see the rest.

• **Janet Ellicott - London**

To John Philpott - I'm sorry, but I have to say this. Why is it always the media fans who have to bend over backwards to accommodate the book fans? If they want us to go to their conventions, or not arrange conventions the same weekends, then they have to make an effort to let us know what they're doing. I registered for T'Kon at Warp One last year. I *still* haven't seen a flyer for Eastercon, and I run an adzine!!! As for Worldcon, it took me over a year to discover where to write to, and by that time the price had gone up. Is it really so difficult to buy a copy of TV Zone and find out when the Trek cons are?

Several people were asking where they could get zines from. I agent for Bill Hupe in this country. I also publish my own zines

and have a large stock of second hand zines. And I sell to Europe (and everywhere else for my own and second hand stuff as well as the UK. So feel free to write for a list or attend one of my Open Houses. (See my ads.)

• Marwan Bukhari - Manchester

How to turn from 'somebody who likes Star Trek' to a Trekkie! Step 1 - June '93, discover the world of conventions; 1st con, Contagion. Go to the con and spend all the time at the bar, only seeing the Nichelle talks. Step 2 - August '93, Go to Holodeck. Get drunk. Do all the silly dances. Recognise a few people you met at the bar at Contagion. Decide cons are the next best thing to sliced bread. Step 3 - September '93. Go to Lightspeed. Get mauled by all the steward duties but still enjoy it. Step 4 - October '93. Go and see George Takei at Midcon. Decide that you have spent enough this year; definitely no more! Step 5 - November '93. Go to Novacon (sci-fi con) and decide that Trek cons are much nicer. Step 6 - December '93. Join IDIC, STAG, NSFA and register for Starbase '94. Declare yourself a Trekkie! Well, that's how I make it out, anyway!

To change the subject; to say that a Doctor is unable to take command of a Starship because they would be too preoccupied with treating casualties is quite an erroneous supposition. All Doctors, even in this day and age, are trained to take decisions in medical and non-medical situations. Administration has become part and parcel of the job, so life and death decisions would be totally natural for a Doctor to assume.

Starfleet would almost certainly train medical staff in command as they have teams of nurses and technicians in their respective departments. The other point to be made is that there is more than one Doctor per 400 in a Starship, and therefore on the Enterprise NCC 1701-D there would be a minimum of three, and presumably (in Descent) they would not be in the search parties looking for the Borg (and Data) on the planet below.

A friend at a recent con remarked on the lack of racial minorities in ST fandom. I

have my views on the subject but would like to hear yours. 55 Sycamore Grove, Failsworth, Manchester M35 9NB Tel 061 681 0976

• Edward Woo - Sea Island City

To Judith Taylor - Although there was the name Enterprise on the ship in ST:IV, in actual fact the ship we saw was apparently the USS Ranger. The real Enterprise has a distinctive bridge (check the NG conference room to see the ships named Enterprise hanging on the wall). The real Enterprise was on exercise in Europe when ST:IV was being filmed, hence a substitute was used.

To Kim Fisher - I have to disagree with you. I think Major Kira is the strongest female character ever to emerge in Star Trek. She may have similar traits to Ensign Ro but she is no Starfleet officer. You have to admit Kira has had more dialogue than any other female cast member. Chapel and Uhura rarely got away from their duty stations. Crusher and Troi are not in the command structure in the early season of TNG, although they have both played a more prominent role more recently, thanks to Jeri Taylor.

To Michael Farquhar - Yes, Dr Bashir could continue with his Frontier medicine and write papers about Data and Melora. I am saying that for a hobby outside medicine, we see him play a futuristic version of squash (in which he was a champion at medical school) in Rivals - it's a funny episode in which he plays against O'Brien.

To Joan Verba - I found your answer about the runabouts in Timescape and Emissary interesting. Another alternative is to disassemble the Runabouts, store them and they rebuild when they arrive at DS9.

To Linda Harrod - For your first con, I would try to get to a local one for ease of travelling. You could go for one day to sample the atmosphere. If you want to go in at the deep end, a full con is the target. My current favourite is Contagion (Glasgow), which has a newcomers' party. If you live close enough to a local group, a visit there

would be a good idea.

My current feelings re this new series (Voyager) is apprehension. From the plot it sounds as if we have a mutiny, with Starfleet officers taking over a Starship. There has never been a mutiny on board a Starship in Trek's history. I do applaud the casting of Nurse (Dr?) Ogawa and a Bajoran. Melora would be interesting. As to rumours of a holographic character, that sounds too much like Red Dwarf to me. I would still like to see a Benzite or a pair of Bynars on board.

To everyone in N/L 32 - I thought this N/L had some of the best articles printed in a long time, all thought-provoking and enjoyable to read. Many thanks to all the writers. Keep at it!

• Andrew Carnegie - Sevenoaks, Kent

To Judith Taylor, Edwin Yau, Marie I J Park - I have to agree with you about Descent I - it was one of the most awful NG episodes ever made. The first five minutes were OK, but... Data angry? It just didn't work at all. As for Picard, I've always respected his judgement and excellent command abilities but he ought to be thrown out of Starfleet for gross incompetence - leaving Bev in charge while he and most of the crew went running around in search of Data. Why did nobody object? Surely this is not normal procedure in a time of war?? I've yet to see Part II but if, as you say, Edwin, it's very bad, I'm not looking forward to it. If Season 7 is as bad as reported, maybe NG ought to have been axed at the end of Season 5 when it was excellent and producing good episodes.

To Michelle Oldroyd - Re Romulans entering Federation space. In The Enemy the Romulans knew that the Enterprise was watching them across the Neutral Zone and crossed the border when the Enterprise failed to rendezvous there. In Face of the Enemy, Neveck wanted the Warbird to go undetected into Federation space, this requiring access codes to disable the sensors monitoring the border (and alerted the Enterprise that the Romulans had crossed the border in The Enemy)

To David Hall - Re Starfleet uniforms. I think the following is correct.

Blue - science/medical department

Amber - security and engineering (Data wears this since Operations Chief is primarily in charge of ship's systems thus a direct link to engineering.

Red - other senior staff (Captain, First Officer, Admirals and other special position officers, eg helmsman. This explains why Wesley wore red.)

• Nicole Comtet - France

To Gloria Fry - Thank you, Gloria, for your article on Spock and consequently on LN. Even if we may not see Spock, Kirk and Co on the screen any more, we must keep the flame alive. Hope to see you at Contagion in July and Spotlight in November.

To Jennifer Cobbing - Don't be upset by unpleasant responses to your comments on some TNG fans' attitude towards Original Trek actors and fans. I have experienced the same problem at some cons. Maybe these TNG fans will quieten down when TNG is over. Let us hope so.

• Alex Pidd - Selby

I'd like John Philpott (N/L 32 p 17) to get off his high horse and step back into reality. I can endorse Sheila Clark's comments in that I'm underwhelmed with the publicity for the Easter convention that is obviously so close to Mr Philpott's heart. Until I read his letter I wasn't aware of any 'divisions in British fandom' - can anyone enlighten me on this point? Personally I hope everyone attending a con at Easter, or any other time of the year, has a good time.

This letter did cause me to recall one of my colleague's gripes about fandom. The only way you find out about conventions is to join a fan club; yet the only way to find out about fan clubs is by attending a convention. Does this scenario sound familiar to anyone? I know there are a few exceptions and all credit to IDIC for its TV Zone adverts. Yet aren't these magazines only appealing to an already converted minority? Part of the problem seems to me that some fans only

appear to be interested in talking to other fans. Given this, it's not unexpected that fandom can look intimidating when viewed by outsiders. Those associated with these closed groups shouldn't be surprised when they are ignored or treated as a bunch of weirdoes (the part the media plays in categorising Star Trek and other sci-fi devotees as weirdoes is a separate topic and worthy of a complete article in itself). I know of many enthusiasts who are reluctant to join a fan club (assuming they could find one) but would love the opportunity to see one of the Original Series or Next Generation Star Trek cast in person. Where can they find out about such events? No wonder Absolute Field Marketing via the Official UK Fan Club sees a commercial opportunity it can exploit by placing its magazines in shops such as HMV. How long now before a commercial profit-making convention is arranged with full newspaper, radio and TV advertising?

And finally, in a different vein. Thanks to all those involved with the Starbase '94 convention. I had a great time and didn't mind the queues; I doubt I'll have many more opportunities to have a few words with George Takei. I'm looking forward to finding out who the guest(s) will be for next year.

• Derek Vidgen - Camberley

Thank you for my first year of IDIC and the introduction to Star Trek fandom. I have always been interested in ST, being introduced to Classic Trek and thinking that ST:TMP was the best sci-fi film and is even now on a par with Dune as the best of their type - ie pure science fiction.

Some thoughts on Star Trek Memories by William Shatner. I thoroughly enjoyed the book and believe it showed Shatner in the light which has won my admiration. That is a man who worked to make Captain Kirk believable and an 'American icon'. Now he is able to look back on his career and the effect of his behaviour, I hope it will lead to more 'memories', hopefully those of the Star Trek films.

Next Gen does seem to have substituted a little of the character

interaction, which I believe is too 'nice' (sometimes embarrassingly good natured) for the sci-fi effects. Hopefully the upcoming ST:VII will address this as the previous six films developed the Classic Trek crew.

Finally, could someone please explain where the person is in the observation lounge on the opening credits as I cannot seem to find the area of the Enterprise where the lounge is?

• Rory Smith - Hereford

To Peter J Carmody - 'Article on Starfleet as a military organisation'. I do not agree with you about them being a military organisation. The destroyers and the heavy cruisers are necessary for defence. As Starfleet is the main space controlling branch of the Federation it is necessary to have some sort of defence against dangers like the Borg. However, I think there must be separate service which handles military necessities. If you read Mr Scott's Guide to the Enterprise, it tells you how when Starfleet first changed uniforms they were criticised for being similar to the military's uniforms, so there must be a separate branch. If you listen to the words at the start of Star Trek - "To boldly go...", it tells you how their mission is exploration, not defence.

To anyone - I think it was a mistake to have Nomad wipe Uhura's memory in The Changeling, because then she regained her memory to its ordinary state in a special programme of McCoy's. If it was that easy for her to regain all her training from total blankness, then it would be easy to train personnel rapidly to that excellent state. Also, when Nomad fired on the Enterprise, it had the equivalent fire power of 90 torpedoes. Isn't this a little stupid, as it took about only 9 torpedoes to knock Enterprise's shields in Elaan of Troyius. Apart from those few technical glitches, it was a good episode.

By the way, has anyone seen a NG starbase? Though I'm not a regular watcher of NG, I'm interested in the technology. Is it similar to the older one in the Star Trek Movies?

• Catherine Carter - 39 North Lodge Avenue, Harrogate HG1 3HX

I'm a new subscriber and boy do I wish I'd found you people before now! I've only just found out about 'zines as well and practically the first thing I read is that people are no longer producing them the way they once did. This is dreadful!!!!!! I've been surviving on the professional novels up until now and one a month is just not enough to keep a self-confessed print junky going. So keep writing them folks and never throw anything away - I've got 20 years of catch-up reading to do. Drop me a line with a note of what you've got that you don't want, I'll refund postage and we can negotiate from there.. By the way A5 looks fine to me.

I've been trying to work out what's wrong with DS9 - there's definitely something - and I've come up with a few ideas - (a) I don't know whether it's the poor quality videos I've been watching at cons but the whole place looks dingy to me (b) there are too many people with deep, monotonous voices - Sisko, Odo, the Cardassians, all the Bajoran clergy people and even Kira to some extent and (c) there seems to be nobody there who displays much by way of wit or even irony. I'll concede that Bashir has a certain goofy charm but there appears to be nobody who can manage repartee the way they do in TNG or CT. I think the idea might have been to use Dax for this but she seems to be being totally wasted at the moment.

Re Chekov and Khan - I don't know what the problem is. He was a painfully eager Ensign and I can think of nothing more likely than him poring over back mission logs in his off-watches. As for Khan, we don't know what the conversation was before the film returns to the Botany Bay - why not something like "So you know my name eh ? And who might you be ?" Chekov gives name, rank and serial number and says he knows all about Khan and the wicked things he tried to do on the Enterprise. Et Voila ! (It is possible to take this stuff too seriously, you know !)

And three questions to finish with - Is there anywhere I can get the pattern for a

landing party jacket and waistcoat as seen in TWoK ? Who or what is/are or were The Farragut after which the ship was named ? (That's been bugging me since the 70's) and does anyone know what the French think about having their only "American Icon" played by Patrick Stewart, a representative of Perfidious Albion?

• Janet Quarton - Lochgilphead, Argyll

I like SeaQuest DSV. I think it leans more towards Star Trek than Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea, but I don't mind as I like both series. I think Gene Roddenberry would be happy that Steven Spielberg decided to base his new series on the same ideals as Star Trek.

While I enjoy all three series of Star Trek I find it easier to understand those fans who admit having a preference for one series and one character, than those who say they like all series and all characters equally. Maybe it is just me, but while I enjoy a lot of different series on TV, it is my feelings for Kirk and his relationship with Spock and McCoy, and the Enterprise which has kept me actively involved in fandom for 22 years. If those characters and that series were not very special to me, then I wouldn't spend all my spare time on IDIC.

The movies came along, which I don't really like, and then TNG and DS9, both of which I enjoy, but neither of them has whatever it is makes the original series and characters very special to me. I see nothing wrong in admitting a preference to one version of Star Trek, or to admit liking or disliking comics, novels, zines or whatever, as long as we accept that other fans have their own likes and dislikes and that they have as much right to their views and likes as we have to ours. It has to be possible to discuss things and even argue without resorting to - what I say and believe is 'right' and if you don't agree you are 'wrong'.

• Pen Cramphorn - Pudsey, West Yorks

To Hayley Clarke - You asked for a translation of dialogue between Spock and Saavik in STII:TWOK after Kirk's inspection of the trainees. It goes like this:

Saavik: "He's never what I expect, sir."

Spock: "What surprises you, Lieutenant?"

Saavik: "He's so... Human."

Spock: "Nobody's perfect, Saavik".

I would just like to say that while I found the article by Judith Proctor, The Universal Translator, extremely interesting - especially her theory about the translator being some sort of implant (rather like the Babel Fish in Hitch Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy!). It doesn't explain how come in The Undiscovered Country Kirk and McCoy actually had hand held translators of some sort in the trial scene, and how Uhura has to search through a load of books, so that she could talk to the Klingon guards, when they wanted to fly into Klingon territory to rescue Kirk and McCoy.

• Jill Clements - Bexleyheath, Kent

I hope I didn't upset anyone with my comments on Will Riker last N/L, but as the friendly Klingon I met at LALCON said, "That's the best part of IDIC, the interaction in the letters pages" and anything that creates discussion!

Frame of Mind was shown at LALCON. I find it very hard to watch, it leaves me jumpy. Jonathan Frakes was simply brilliant (see, I'm not anti-Riker!)

I'm in the middle of my weekly German 'lesson' at the moment and Picard's love poetry to Lwaxana is just as funny. "She who must be avoided" is brilliant as always. Why do I feel such an affinity with her? (Melanie, Hush little one.)

Gloria Fry, I loved your article on Spock. Where did the idea of 'satanic' originate? I've never thought of him as even remotely satanic. Would Spock be a superior lover? Bags I first in line to answer *that* one! AND if Asimov is right and smart is sexy, join the queue for Data. But you would only have to ask Data; Spock would be a real challenge. The real perversity of we Spockaholics is that we are all probably seekers of romance and an emotional relationship. Where is the logic in that? (In this instance, my logic is very faulty.)

Taruka, as a fairly new member, I don't know if you have ever written an article on Worf Appeal. Would it be the shortest article ever? Down, Girl!

To Marion van der Voort - I wasn't at Christmas Carol the same night as you, but it obviously affected us in a similar way. Did the dance put you in mind of Mr Pastry doing the Lancers?

• Mandy J Sampson - Northampton

To Edwin Yau - What are you on about with "Snow White and the Seven Borg"? There's nothing wrong with the acting in Descent II. There was some very good acting from Brent Spiner, Jonathan del Arco and Brian J Cousins. I find the Borg in Descent I & II interesting; I think more stories could be written about these Borg as well as the collective - if there is still a collective.

To Tracy Saunders - It was nice to read your article in N/L 32. I agree that the way Gene Roddenberry has pointed for us will one day become reality. If there is reincarnation, I would like to come back to a world like Gene has created in Star Trek.

To Jill Clements - I too was reminded of Charlie X when I saw Future Imperfect, only I wish Charlie could have been taken away from that lonely planet. I know Borash wasn't a threat like Charlie would have been had he been allowed to stay on the Enterprise, but the Thasians should have taken Charlie's powers away instead.

• Michael Farquhar - Dubai, UAE

To Michelle Oldroyd - I'm guessing, but in The Enemy the Romulans hadn't made an incursion into actual Federation space for seventy-odd years, so maybe detection was a bit lax then. By the time of Face of the Enemy, the Federation was more wary of new Romulan incursions and so had developed a better early warning system. Or possibly the small ship in The Enemy was too small to be detected (like planes flying low to avoid radar).

To Clive Viagas - At least you get books and such imported easily into Gibraltar - all my Trek books and videos come to me

via the UAE censors - so far they haven't found anything that "contravenes the decency of Islamic standards", but it still takes them ages to clear them - maybe they're all secret Trek fans!

To Edward Woo - What exactly does Sisko's role as Emissary entail? I thought it was simply that he was the one who had made contact with the 'gods' in the wormhole, and that was it? Admittedly, that makes him a figure to be revered by the Bajorans but he doesn't have an active role, does he? As for the orbs, the one on DS9 was presumably returned to Bajor, and the Cardassians have (had) the rest.

I've just seen Duet for the first time, and Kira is one of the best characters in a long time; Progress and Duet are both excellent episodes. She's portrayed so complexly by both the writers and Nana Visitor, and I think the Kira/Bajor stories are the best in season 1.

And to Kim Fisher - Although we've only seen two Bajorans proper, we've seen several others in lesser roles (Kai Opaka, Vedeks Winn and Bareil, Tahn Alos, the village in The Storyteller, those in Progress, etc) - and yes, they are stubborn - but they're also a spiritual, ancient people (mentioned by Picard in Ensign Ro) who have been peaceful for as long as they can remember - until recently. As a people, they've just spent fifty years fighting a war they never wanted to have to fight, to drive away an oppressor. Now they're readjusting, and the process of how a now aggressive people can try to regain the serenity they once had is going to take time - but it's fascinating television watching them trying.

Re Wolf 359 - All we know is that the Borg ship killed 11000 people and destroyed 40 or so ships (from The Drumhead) at Wolf 359. That gives an average of 275 people on each ship - which is way below average for a starship's crew (the original Enterprise, on a smaller scale to many of the TNG fleet's ships, had roughly 400 crew - without families). So maybe those ships that had the time offloaded personnel if they could, and those which didn't (like the Saratoga and the

Enterprise-D herself) went straight into battle. Also, do we know that all Starfleet ships carry family on board in the first place - I thought the only reason the Enterprise-D did was because of the unusual length of her mission.

The report on Janet at Holodeck was really interesting, and it was great to learn a bit more about the people who run IDIC. I've really enjoyed what I've got out of this club since I joined, and I'd just like to say thanks to Janet, Sheila, Valerie, Helen (I hope you're feeling better now) and everyone else involved in the production of both the newsletter and the zines for making them so good. Thank you.

• Philip Morley - Fleetwood, Lancs

To Steven Daniels - Yes, Diana Muldaur (Dr Pulaski) has appeared in LA Law as well, I think bringing Tasha back to life thanks to Q is far too Dallas-ish, and we all know what happened to Dallas. It might be nice to see Denise Crosby come back to the show as Tasha Yar in the form of a holodeck creation - or would that be too Rimmer-ish? (Red Dwarf)

Does anyone know how much a bar of gold-pressed latinum is worth? Since the arrival of DS9 it has become quite a regular feature, especially amongst Ferengi circles.

Is Parallels the conclusion to the original Trek episode Mirror, Mirror? I have read that there is to be a conclusion to this story, and so far this episode is the closest to being that conclusion, but if you watch it you will note it's more of a different story remotely similar to the original one. With that in mind, will there be a direct conclusion to Mirror, Mirror later on in season 7?

Does anyone have any new season 7 TNG or season 2 DS9 they would be prepared to lend to me in exchange for any other Star Trek episodes? If so, please write to me at 407 Fleetwood Rd, Fleetwood, Lancs, FY87 8HN. Thank you.

• Tracy Saunders - Westcliffe on Sea, Essex

I was interested to read in the postbag that a number of people have found

differences between people who like TNG and those who like Classic Trek. May I just say that those people who have a go at each other cannot be interested in Star Trek for its philosophy. So the question I now have is, where is Star Trek fandom going? One of Gene's philosophies was tolerance, and I cannot see that being practised at the moment.

To Judith Taylor - I was interested in your comments about Deanna Troi being telepathic. The only thing is, in your comments you mentioned that Troi could send to other telepaths, meaning Riker. I didn't think that Riker was telepathic. How did you come to this conclusion?

To Ruth Mellor - Unlike yourself, I am not Lesbian, but I can understand what you mean when you said about the episode The Outcast is getting people thinking about other people. I have suffered from epilepsy for 14 years and I myself have suffered much prejudice.

To Lloyd Lewis - Re your comment about 'eating chops'. I'm vegetarian, but I don't think anyone has the right to tell someone what to do. Surely it would be best to do something because you want to, than someone telling you to.

To Martin Heslton - You were trying to explain about the Starfleet system in the last newsletter. Please excuse my ignorance, but what were you talking about? I couldn't get the hang of it.

You don't suppose that Soong tried to make Data and Lore as a parallel? What I mean is, would Data be what Soong would like himself to be and Lore what he really is? A joint ego, so to speak.

To Stephen Daniels - I think you erred about Tasha Yar being reincarnated into the film. If the rumour is correct that Kirk hands over the ship to Picard, that should mean the beginning of the 'dominance' of Picard, so Tasha Yar would be there, wouldn't she?

To Jill Clements - I do hope that there is nothing seriously wrong with you and that

the healing helps you. Yes, the philosophy of Star Trek is in line with spiritualism. That is all I am allowed to say on the subject, because it would be against your free will if I preached to you. If any of you do want to know more, write to me at 27 Glenwood Ave, Westcliffe on Sea, Essex SS0 9DJ.

• Taruka Quauhtezcatl - Preston

To Jude Taylor - Re Chains of Command. A powerful episode indeed. But didn't Q say (Deja Q, I think) "One creature's pleasure is another's torture"? It also reminded me very much of the history of my Andean ancestors - how the nobles and priests were tortured by the Spanish to tell them where gold was hidden. Atawwallpa, the last Inka, had unspeakable tortures. In everyone there is a dark streak of cruelty, signified at its most potent by the Aztec tezcitlipoca or dark mirror, that side of all of us we do not like to admit is there.

To Ruth Mellor (and girl friend). More power to y'r elbow. I had the very pleasant and amusing experience of sharing a house with a Lesbian some years ago (I'm straight). My most vivid memory is a joint notice board spiking through the college with a pro-Lesbian cartoon. It was amazing to see people's reaction to it. Some saw the joke, the rest tore it into tiny pieces. Such, I'm afraid, is the attitude of many so-called 'straight' people to something they don't understand, and as such makes me ashamed that intolerance still exists.

Tdaima, Lloyd. Re meat. If we stopped eating meat what would become of the otherwise unwanted bull calves and tup lambs? What of cows beyond economical milking age? Or cock poultry chicks? Most of these are aggressive in adulthood, and to be honest keeping them is a waste of money. As wool is only a by-product of the lamb/mutton industry, are you advocating that we don't wear wool? Or leather? Also, as I told someone once, there are our pets - dogs and cats - to consider. Where dogs can live on a vegetarian diet, cats can't.

To Ewan Chalmers - Point taken re Shades of Grey - and I'd add Spock's Brain and DS9 - Emissary quite happily to the list.

I'm just miffed that these things get published when others (yes, I'm off again, Sheila) never seem to get past Ms Clark! Having got the Writer/Directors Guide in my hot sticky little fingers I checked a twice-rejected manuscript to see if it seriously fell outside the Paramount guidelines and much to my surprise it didn't. Ah, well, the whims of editors, I suppose - but I'm not sending anything more to ScoTpress! *[Sheila - Sorry, Taruka, maybe I didn't make it clear enough, but my point was that I felt too much of your story revolved around your own characters to meet ScoTpress's guidelines. Our policy is that stories should be mainly about the Enterprise and her crew, or at least someone who appears in aired Trek - not necessarily to the complete exclusion of your own characters, of course. Too many of our regular readers have said they don't want to read stories that are mainly about 'guest' characters. Some of the pro novels fall into the same category; you're criticising that yourself in this letter!]*

Re Pawns and Symbols - too much emphasis on Jean Czerny and her attempts to make friends with the Klingons. Main character is NOT a Trek regular, please note, and how many more references to tribbles must we have?

And ANYONE got the Night Court episodes with Brent Spiner in them?

SADLER!!! I owe you three tribbles at the last count. Your galley joke was bad enough. Beats my latest culinary delicacy - an ice-borg lettuce - fair and square.

While I remember, I've moved house yet again. My current (and permanent) address is now Tierra Venida, 3 Cromer Place, Ingol, Preston, Lancs PR2 3XR.

OK, Barrett. I wouldn't have done the drama if I'd known the acoustics were THAT bad. We didn't actually have a chance to do a sound check, y'see. I didn't even know the final layout of the ballroom until the evening. I can project my voice - for a while I was a parade-ground drill instructor. But an empty theatre and one packed with people have totally different acoustics (as you should

know). Be fortunate I didn't put the Aztec costume in the Lightspeed fancy dress - it may well have won.

Yes, I remember listening to Star Trek and its sequel Star Trek II. Very funny, if I recall. Wasn't Angus Deayton involved in that?

Jill Searle and anyone else who's shy at cons. So what? If you're at Contagion watch out for an idiot wearing a steward's badge and a huge tassel of feathers down her back - that's me, and I'll talk to anyone.

Sideways from Gaile Wood's question re sanitising death. Yes, I know what she means. Though I've only held a corpse's hand once I have met quite a few (dozen) animal cadavers in my time. I well recall the morbid fascination of a group of children watching Jude Taylor and me skinning rabbits and plucking ducks - they'd never seen anyone doing it before! To the point. It depends on your beliefs as to how you view death. Personally, I see it as a time of rest after the rigors of life, safe in the breast of Pachamama, and thus a time of joy as well as sorrow.

• Alan Stephen - Bridge of Don, Aberdeen

To Phillipa Timms - Please don't buy comics to speculate. I've been collecting on and off for 30 years. This aberration of the speculator bothers me. Buy comics if you enjoy them, not (maybe) to collect masses of money in the future. Comics and graphic novels are an art form, not a future market.

To Sheila Clark - plenty of words do not necessarily make a good book, they can make an overwritten pretentious novel. Some of our best writers are succinct - take for example Roddy Doyle; no overblown prose there, to the point and marvellous writing. I don't agree with you that graphic novels are just storyboards. It, of course, depends what you judge graphic novels against. If it is Star Trek novels, then they compare very well. Consider this, that some of the ST novelists also write graphic novels; Peter David, Michael Jan Friedman, Diane Duane. Peter David, one of the best ST novelists, I can assure you gives as much care

and attention to his graphic novels as to his ST novels. If, however, you compare graphic novels with 'proper' novels then they do not compare very well (but then neither do ST novels). Having said that, there are sufficient graphic novels that have won important awards, namely a Pulitzer Prize, American Heritage Award, a Arts Society award and a Hugo, which NO ST novel has ever won. Before ST fans get all snooty about graphic novels I think they should consider that.

To Dave Styles - If anything is to blame for the moral decline in this country it's hypocrisy and humbug, whether it's a Tory MP standing by his wife's side saying he is for family values and back to basics and then fathering a child to his secretary, or a ST fan who says "Pirate videos are plain illegal" then adds "The first thing I did was buy a couple of pirate videos" at LATCON "so friends who couldn't make the trip could watch what we had seen that day." More than a hint of double standards there.

The precept of this newsletter is IDIC - Infinite Diversity in Infinite Combinations, which I thought meant that you could enjoy whatever you wanted without severe criticism as long as you didn't break the laws of the land. We all have our prejudices; I particularly don't care to see ST fans in costume, but I would never dream of insulting them by deriding their interest. It also distresses me to see the dialogue regarding Original Trek, ST:ING and DS9; all these shows have their strengths and weaknesses. We should celebrate this diversity of material, not continually knock those whose interests are different, and I for one am looking forward to welcoming Voyager into the Star Trek family.

Live long and prosper - and remember, never make fun of a Ferengi's mother.

• Sara Dickinson - Wroughton, Nr Swindon

To Jill Searle - As a very shy person I agree with a lot of what you had to say. Taking that first step is very difficult, far more so than many of our more outgoing brothers and sisters suspect. I attended my first (and so far only) full convention in

Slough in 1978 and don't remember talking to another person at all. Joining a club may be a better way to start off - getting to know a few people at a time and letting oneself relax in the company of kindred spirits. For example, I spent the New Year at Avalon in Swanage and had a great time. Comparing tales of our intrepid journeys was a great ice-breaker. People make a great difference - everyone was very welcoming and the support of the organisers, especially Kate, was very much appreciated. I made new friends and for the first time in a long time I'm having fun and running out of writing paper. Everyone like us needs something to bolster their confidence and my positive experience has given me the courage to book for several of the planned conventions - if I ever get my confirmation back from Archon, that is. Perhaps we should get together and form a society for the terminally shy - I'll bring the Romulan Ale.

To Dave Styles - From my admittedly limited experience the fan-run clubs seem a lot friendlier and more personal than OUKFC, but I wouldn't have found about Avalon and IDIC, etc, without the OUKFC. However, pound for pound club newsletters like this one are better value for money. I have to confess that I take my phone off the hook when one arrives - something that the OUKFC's product doesn't seem to have done.

To Clement Chung - Re The Nitpicker's Guide. Yes, you can still watch the show, but not if you, that book and the television are all in the same room. The temptation to peek or flip to the relevant page can be too strong to resist.

I agree with you about Redemption - it's my favourite episode, particularly part I. I too like Worf/Alexander stories but from there on I'm afraid we'll have to agree to disagree. The main problem with season 6 is that it didn't have enough strong Klingon episodes - or Klingon episodes period. Klingons are never dull and there were a few episodes in the last series that certainly were.

To Helen White - If you think Worf's hair is 'girly' what do you think of Gowron's change of image in Rightful Heir (or Hair, as

someone else I know said recently).

• Lee Owers Sansome - Tamworth

To John Philpott - Since my return to Trek fandom a couple of years ago (after an absence of 8 years) little seems to have changed with the relationship between SF fandom and Trek fandom. I don't see any SF cons advertising in Trek newsletters - so how are Trek con committees supposed to know which dates to avoid unless they subscribe to SF clubs? And why should they avoid these dates anyway? While it is true that there is some cross over of fans, I would say that the majority of Trek fans are not mainstream SF fans, and unless things have changed a lot SF fandom isn't doing anything to encourage fans who have discovered SF through Trek. I gave up attending SF cons after several occasions when it was made plain to me that to admit to being a Trek fan at a SF con was the greatest social gaffe one could commit. Trek fans who are saddened at the Classic versus TNG mudslinging should hear some of the things I heard 'serious' SF fans say about Trek! At a Trek con I can talk SF and be taken seriously. Thus far, the reverse has never been true. And yes, how about some more info on Worldcon for Trek fans who would like to go?

To Anne Coulstock - I'm afraid I thought Lessons was a pretty poor episode, too. Apart from the 'Mary Sue' storyline, the writers totally compromised the integrity of Picard's character. Firstly, someone as fiercely private as Picard would *never* - obtusely or otherwise - ask Deanna's 'permission' to pursue a romantic relationship (I doubt he'd even consider such a relationship with anyone in the crew, but if he did, it would be with such utter discretion that no-one else, including the Counselor, would know about it). Secondly, if he were to enter such a relationship, he would *never* allow it to interfere with his duty or professional judgement. The man we saw in that episode was very charismatic, very noble and very sympathetic - but it wasn't Picard.

To Jill Searle - Totally agree with you about Holodeck - the panels were the making of my weekend. Hope you are right about more of the same at UFP this year. Your idea

for 'hosts' badges is a feasible one - con committees please take note!

To David Raper - Are you having me on or did we see the same episode? Sorry, but I thought the bridge scenes with Crusher in the centre seat were the most wooden I have ever seen in TNG. The dialogue was stilted and unimaginative and the acting by all three principal characters was dreadful. Where *did* they dig up the other two and why make them such corny stereotypes?

In complete contrast, Data's spell as acting Captain in Gambit I & II was wonderful. Now he really took charge - he was cool, precise and commanding and managed to combine strength of purpose with compassion in his 'dressing down' of Worf. All this from an android! Data definitely deserves a command of his own.

To Gaile Wood - Re embarrassing moments in Trek. Perhaps we ought to distinguish between moments which are meant to make you cringe (like Picard singing in Allegiance) and those which do so only because they are so corny/badly written (like Plato's Stepchildren). My vote for the most intentionally embarrassing moment would go to Data's "Honey, I'm home" routine in In Theory. The most unintentionally embarrassing would be Spock's Vulcan harp 'jamming' session with the hippies in The Way to Eden.

To Wil Marsh - What do you mean, "Picard, I'll say no more"? Are you implying Picard *isn't* a strong character? Granted he is not the Boys' Own, have-a-go hero type that Kirk was (please, all you Kirk fans, don't jump at that. I'm one of you. I love Jim right down to his little gung-ho hero's socks!) but he does have remarkable strength of character in every other way. Look at how he broke through the Borg's conditioning to save the Enterprise in BOBW and resisted the physical and mental torture in Chain of Command. And he will go up against the hierarchy of Fleet Command to uphold his own principles - The Offspring ("Ask a man to give up his child to the State? Not while he's under my command.") and again in The Drumhead. Perhaps it is a sign of the times

that we don't see him fighting off the baddies while sheltering the heroine safely behind him. Most of us female viewers would prefer to see her taking care of herself! That's why we like Kira in DS9 so much - a woman who is assertive (not just aggressive) and who has gained equality without losing her femininity.

• Pamela McDowall - Exeter

To Phillipa Timms - I agree wholeheartedly with your comments about audio books. Having been without glasses for 8 weeks following a cataract operation/lens implant, they were a great blessing. Also when doing the week's ironing, it helps time pass more quickly if listening to a good book!

To Taruka Quauhtezcatl - Have been meaning to contact you ever since I joined IDIC. Spent 3.5 years in La Paz whilst working at the British Embassy (1948 - 1952) and lived in Preston for 11 years before moving here in 1980. Am fascinated by your surname. At first glance I thought it was Mexican. Is it, I wonder, Quetchuan or Aymaran? I have fond memories of my life high in the Andes and have some lovely framed photographs of Illimani and other scenes lining my staircase. Spent many weekends with friends at Huani Potosa (17000 feet) and even got down to the Yungas (4000 feet).

• Hayley Clarke - Australia

To Gaile Wood - I agree that Plato's Stepchildren probably has the most embarrassing Classic Trek moment. I can't bear to see Captain Kirk being made to act like a horse while Spock was laughing and crying in the background. The most embarrassing moment in TNG would be Tasha's embarrassment in The Naked Now or when Riker tried to cook eggs which only Worf could eat!

Question - on each version of the Enterprise there have been kitchens/galleys mentioned or seen, eg Charlie X, STVI:TUC and Lonely Among Us, and yet everybody seems to use replicators to produce what they eat or drink. What use is a kitchen on a Starship if it's not used? This has probably

been asked before but I wasn't around to hear any answers! *[Sheila - Yes, there was a debate about this a while ago. I think this was why Michael Sadler checked to see if he could find Charlton Heston aboard one of the Enterprises. Among suggestions made at the time were that some people might enjoy cooking as a hobby, or new recipes were tried out before being programmed into the replicators.]*

• Bernardo Silva e Carmo - Portugal

To Kathleen Glancy - Re Shatner/Superman. It looks like Starlog has heard of you. On their DS9 mag, Vol 1 p 48, there's a picture of STIII magazine. Below it you can read "for \$3.00 - Superman III: The Search for Spock". I swear I'm not joking.

To Kim Fisher - If Kira is a useless character, then Odo is useless, Sisko is useless, the entire crew is useless, ST:DS9 is useless, *Star Trek* is useless...

To Dave Styles - You said it was possible to be up to date with the latest Trek without resorting to pirate videos. Can you tell us how you manage to do that? I'm all ears.

To Linda Harrod - I think you are confusing that title with Mr Scott's Guide to the Enterprise. Assuming you are talking about Spock's World, it can be obtained from Pocket Books - I only know the US address, 1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020. I think the price is about \$7. I saw it referred to in Isaac Asimov's SF Magazine.

To Joan Verba - Thanks for the cards, they look very nice. Thanks also for your letter about Genesis. I'm going to make good use of it.

And finally - what do Betazoids vocal cords for? I can think of two possible reasons: a) there are others in Betazed who don't 'receive' Betazoids' messages or whose thoughts aren't 'readable' or b) Betazoids like to sing and talk to each other. Any more opinions?

• Gratienne Vandekerckhove - Belgium

To Nanaki Kaur & Michelle Oldroyd -

Thank you for giving me some insight into Troi's abilities. I haven't seen either Violation or Night Terror. My comments came solely from imagining myself having such abilities or meeting such a person. The more I think about it the more I feel as if I've only touched the top of the iceberg.

To Clement Chung - How huge is huge? Paramount isn't going to pay huge amounts of money if they weren't pretty sure to get it back and with more than a little bonus added. It's not as if it isn't a sure thing. Star Trek has a faithful audience in every fan so I can't think they have to worry about a possible loss of millions of dollars. Also the franchise from that film would be by no means something to be sneezed at. And in the end, how much are the actors really going to earn when all the taxes are paid?

• Marie I J Park - Hull

I'd like to open this letter by replying to Edwin Yau's remarks concerning the Borg in Descent. What must be borne in mind was that this particular group *had not been separated from the Collective*. If anything it was through Lore's intervention that these Borg had developed emotions. As Hugh had said, it had, as a result, come to a point where the now-emotional Borg could not go back to the way they were but would continue with their evolution. Besides which, the Collective as a whole make no distinction between good and bad. It was simply a case of Hugh's group being the exception to the rule.

As far as 7th season TNG episodes are concerned, I've actually enjoyed those that I've had the opportunity to see. If the 7th season is indeed as bad as you've been implying, then why don't you stop watching TNG altogether?

To Sarah Mitchell - I don't believe that you've understood the point I was making, which was that Captain Picard had left Beverly Crusher in charge of the Bridge in Descent, presumably because she'd had enough training to know what to do or say at the right time. The references I'd made to the Classic Trek novel Doctor's Orders was done to back up my argument that it was the Captain's discretion as to who he leaves in

charge. Whether or not Doctor's Orders can be deemed as Official Trek certainly bears no relevance to my argument.

To Edward Woo - Re ST:Voyager - I'm not altogether sure that having Commander Riker as Thomas Riker's CO would be a good idea, not if the friction between the two in Second Chances was anything to go by. Also wouldn't Deanna Troi's presence as (possibly) Thomas Riker's wife be like salt in the wound for Commander Riker, a constant, painful reminder of what might have been? Besides which, should Riker accept his own command, wouldn't Data replace him as Picard's First Officer and finally, with the rank of full Commander, Worf replacing Data as Second Officer and so on...?

Something to chew over regarding the Romulan Operative Sela; is she supposed to be an agent of the Tol Shiar or simply with Military Intelligence? With those uniforms it isn't always easy to tell.

I completely disagree with Ann Coulstock's views re Commander Sisko. As a character, Sisko has grown on me over a period of time. It is a combination of Avery Brook's acting ability and his marvellous speaking voice, especially the wonderfully rich and distinctive quality of tone, which I find very pleasing to hear.

To Judith Taylor - Re the 40 ships at Wolf 359. It is too easy to say that the vessels should have offloaded their civilians before going into battle. It is worth remembering that Admiral Hanson needed as many vessels as possible for the Armada against the Borg and above all, time was of the essence. Those vessels that were able to, evacuated their civilians to be picked up later, while the others that didn't have time had to take their chances, since there had been so much at stake. Even if *all* of the vessels had offloaded their civilians, the destruction at Wolf 359 would have happened regardless.

Finally, to Karen Davies' comments re Brothers - It was perfectly reasonable for Riker to demand an explanation from Data and Dr Soong since he and his away team had only just arrived at Soong's home/

laboratory. There was just no way that he'd know what was going on. All we saw was that Soong was injured and needed help. It is also worth remembering that Riker didn't know that Lore had been aboard the Pakled trading vessel or on the surface of the planet until Data told him.

• Clement Chung - Ipswich

Watched Farpoint again the other day. Riker and the away team are under Farpoint Station when it was attacked. When Riker orders the others to beam out, Deanna shouts out. Riker then calls her 'Lieutenant'. I thought Lieutenant Commanders are called 'Commander' for short. Many times, Riker calls the Counselor just by her surname, Troi. Being former lovers, surely wouldn't Riker's first and natural reaction be to call her Deanna and maybe correct himself by using her surname or rank afterwards? It can't be bridge policy as Picard called La Forge 'Geordi' a number of times.

If time is moving in Q Who, why is Ten Forward packed? Guinan was there, and Riker and Worf were allowed to enter, so we assume that Q hadn't disappeared the crew somewhere. By the way, how many Borg ships are there, and why weren't there two or more Borg ships headed to Earth? How do they know they have only covered 19% of the Galaxy? If they haven't explored the rest, how do they know how big it is? Is it round, like the map shown on TNG? If they have explored the 100%, the Galaxy must have a border of some kind.

Question - I am no sex maniac, but I have indirectly noticed that all the women who work for the Federation, in both TNG and DS9, are slim, curvy, with bigger than average busts and attractive. Don't they have fat women in the 24th century? Not saying I prefer big ladies, but has science got away from physically-challenged and facially-challenged women? In Legacy, why were the only clothes that they could find for Ishara Yar revealing and tight so that every male can guess correctly her vital statistics? The only woman I could find who was physically challenged is Marouk in The Vengeance Factor. Prove me wrong, please! Producers have made male roles in all shapes and sizes!

Though there are married and engaged couples in space, why does no-one wear rings on their fingers? Starfleet policy? Not even other races wear them. I thought that every race's customs had to be observed; in Ensign Ro, when Ro transported aboard the Enterprise, why does Riker demand that she remove her ear-ring?

It says in the script outline for budding writers that you can buy the 'Writers' Bible' from Lincoln Enterprises. Is this true? [Ed - yes.]

• Vicky Roberts - Liverpool

To Judith Taylor - Re Picard and Chains of Command. You made an interesting point about the Cardassians. It was good to see the other 'face' of the enemy, to see that they have feelings (and family) too.

To Maria Nausch - Hi, there! I thought your comments about first timers at cons were good. It does help if you do something that attracts people's attention. When I wore my uniform jacket and Vulcan ears at Contagion '94 I had a number of folk coming up to me asking where I'd got them - it was a great conversation starter!

To Jennifer Cobbing - Like Nanaki Kaur, I too was surprised by your article in N/L 31. Whilst I started out as Next Gen fan and it is still my favourite (along with DS9), I also appreciate and enjoy (tremendously) Classic Trek. As you quite rightly pointed out, if it wasn't for the original series, there would be no TNG and certainly no DS9! I myself haven't heard any fans abusing Classic Trek, but if I do I'll be sure to remind them what IDIC means. If you want to see Classic Trek at a con (plus a more tolerant attitude amongst fans) try Contagion.

To James Robertson - Re Lightspeed '93. Having spoken to several members of the committee and others who attended this con, I can't help but feel your criticism more than a little harsh! Duty hours, according to Paul Rowe (one of Lightspeed's organisers) were assigned based on the number of volunteers (ie low number of volunteers, the

more duty hours per steward). As for the lifts and the food poisoning, they were beyond the committee's control and I know for a fact that they were as disgusted about that as you were! Congratulations on your engagement, though, glad there was one bright spot to your weekend.)

• Angrit Lower - Germany

I want to thank all of you for a great time in IDIC. The postbag is my favourite part. You really get to know the people who write for it and it's like having all of you as penpals.

To Clement Chung - I was impressed by all the details you found in the Panini TNG sticker album. You must have an incredibly sharp eye.

Re debate between the fans of all three series; I love all 3 Star Trek series. My favourite is DS9 but I like to talk and discuss all of them. I see them as a unity, each of them expanding the ST universe and providing us more and more details about this future. ST is welcome to me in all forms.

Re DS9 uniforms - I think they are mainly black because of the dirt aboard the station. You can get dirty more easily than on the clean Enterprise and on black you don't see the dirt very well. (Just kidding!)

Re Second Chances - I hate the idea of someone existing twice. I would go crazy knowing there is another me. It's not like twins because both Rikers had the same childhood and life until the separation.

Is there anybody else who loves the Ferengi Rules of Acquisition? Could anyone tell me rule No 62? I couldn't understand it because the Ferengi woman mumbled terribly. My favourite so far is No 48 - "The bigger the smile, the sharper the knife (from Rules of Acquisition).

Re music in TNG/DS9. I'm really disappointed about nearly all the recent scores. They are so boring! I love the DS9 main title and the "Passage Terminated" track on CD but the rest is very monotonous. The

first 3 seasons of TNG had some great music (especially Ron Jones' music) but now only very few episodes have interesting and good scores. The music is mainly strings and some brass but it always sounds the same. I've read that the producers don't allow other music but I can't understand it. Music is a very important component of films and the producers should realise it (eg the episode The Nagus is one episode with a great score. The music supports the fun immensely and improves the character of the episode a lot.) (DS9 premiered in Germany on January 28 1994. The German voices sound very strange and don't fit very well. I also hate the German pronunciation of Bajor...)

Here is one example of boring/stupid German episode titles:

Balance of Terror = Spock unter Verdacht

(Spock under Suspicion)

A Matter of Perspective = Riker unter

Verdacht (Riker under Suspicion)

A Man Alone = unter Verdacht (Under Suspicion) I wonder why it wasn't titled "Odo under Suspicion"?

• Neil J Barrett, Home of the Bond Bug

To Sheila Clark on plot holes. I agree that you shouldn't have to look for explanations for things but I can't agree that this makes TWoK a poorer film than TFF. What do you call a half-brother appearing from nowhere, an energy barrier which jumps across the galaxy, a Romulan with oriental features and an Irish name and so on? Episodes do not necessarily take place in chronological order, 'Space Seed' is set at Stardate 3141.9 but there are 2nd and 3rd season episodes set before this e.g. 'Patterns of Force' at Stardate 2534.0.

To everybody who has debated the subject of Bev in command. A captain does have the privilege of leaving the conn to a staff officer but I doubt this would be done in a potentially dangerous situation. Whether a doctor would be a good commander depends on the circumstances. However, I think that two concepts should really be uppermost in their thinking. 1) The good of the many outweighs the good of the few. A doctor should never even consider risking 900 plus

lives (including civilians and children) to save 40 or so, especially when the forty are military personnel who get paid to risk their lives. 2) Triage. If you cannot help everyone then you do the best you can for the most you can; you do not waste time and resources on those who have little chance of survival.

To James Robertson on Lightspeed '93. I paid for three days and I got three days - Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Which did you miss? There were problems but not as many as there could have been given that this was the first major con by a new team, handicapped by illness and a shortage of volunteers. They are only human (apart from the Klingon and the Kzinti). As for the lifts and the catering, these are things you complain to the hotel management about. The committee chose a reputable chain and that's the best they can do. It doesn't matter why you're there, if you pay for a room you are entitled to a respectable level of service.

To David Hall on uniform colours. What I'd like to know is why Starfleet needs such obvious labelling and why did they reverse the change from the original uniforms to the film uniforms to TNG. The British Army wore red topcoats to frighten the enemy until they realised this also made them awfully easy to see and shoot at. Starfleet security learnt the same lesson in the same way and by the film era had adopted camouflage colours and body armour. So why do TNG security crew now wear yellow and black? Perhaps they are following the example of those insects which mimic wasps etc to deter predators.

• Mervyn Leeder - Market Harborough

To Pam Baddeley - Creation Cons are a 9 - 5 profit-making company. They are not interested in ST or TNG, fans or fandom, only in the profit they can make out of it, from what I have read or heard of them. The Dr Who open day was put on by the BBC using a series they owned, and put on by people who worked for them, therefore there can be no comparison.

To Zander Bruce - You said Contagion was your first con. I have been going to cons

for 20 years. They used to have fancy dress, drama competitions, etc, but cannot hold them if people don't volunteer to enter for them *before* they arrive at the con - there is too much organising to do.

To Edward, Taruka etc. I agree that if we had had a video source we wouldn't need a video room at the con, but we don't. That is one of the reasons I go to cons - for the latest TNG episodes. I once spent a whole weekend in the video room watching seasons 1, 2 & 3 as I cannot afford £11 for a cassette (x 75 +) particularly when I only want ONE of the episodes on some of the cassettes.

To Kim Fisher, Niel Humphreys, etc. The TNG episode Ship in a Bottle could be the writer using poetic licence, or it MIGHT be possible. Ref STNG Technical Manual - the omni-directional holodiode does not project a visible moving electromagnetic (light) image but a holographic pinpoint polarised (one for the left eye, one for the right). Interference patterns are then 'added' at a distance from the lens of the eye to form the visible images, so if a different image was projected by different holodiodes what the crewmember saw would depend on which holodiode and at what angle of view he was looking (the same as 3D photographs).

Objects that are purely holographically created CANNOT leave the holodeck because as soon as the crewmember leaves the holodeck he leaves the field of view and the image disappears. Transporter-based replicated people and objects can only move under computer control within the field of the steerable forcefield section of the holodiode within the holodeck, NOT out of it.

Holographic 'scrolling' of a program is not done by electromagnetic fields but by in thermolecular (electric) contact forces emitted by holodiodes at X, Y, Z co-ordinates. This acts as a variable strength repulsion force between the crewmember and the X, Y, Z co-ordinates while the program 'scrolls' past him in three dimensions and gives a 'solid feel' to holographic objects.

To Moira Warburton - Chris C Bailey is

basically correct - when the USS Reliant exploded the Genesis program encoded in the matrix of the proto-matter within the Genesis device was carried in the shock wave and became part of the make-up of the Genesis planet, accelerating the evolution of the planet under the control of the genesis program, until we have the planet as seen in STIII:TSFS.

• Russell Witheyman - Crawley, W Sussex

To Elaine McCue - I too am worried about another spin-off series; perhaps it's a case of too much too soon. Perhaps they should rest Trek on TV for a while and bring it back in a few years' time - although I must admit I would miss it. I'm sorry that TNG will be finishing but I think they should go out on top, and I personally think that the series peaked around season 4 and that the subsequent seasons haven't been quite as good, although there have been excellent stories throughout, my favourite most recently being Attached; very well acted by Patrick Stewart and a terrific story. Let's hope they can make a few more classics before they finish.

• Paul & Julie von der Fecht - Helsby, Cheshire

To Michelle Oldroyd - In The Enemy, the Romulans were quite blatantly crossing into Federation space. Tomalak had already declared his intention of doing so. In Face of the Enemy the Romulans wanted to pass into Federation space without being detected, or at least without being recognised for what they were; hence the need for the transponder codes in order to cross the border.

To James Connarty - The Sheffield Space Centre has at least some of the FASA Star Trek role-playing game supplements, including the TNG Officer's Manual (though this was produced in the first season and is now probably well out of date). FASA no longer have the rights to produce ST material, but there is a new TNG role-playing game due for release soon.

To John Philpott - Re Eastercon. Since when has the Easter Bank Holiday been

owned by Eastercon, or any other con for that matter? There are only so many Bank Holidays to go round and many cons to fill them. There are always cons taking place on the same weekend, particularly the August Bank Holiday. Well done to the committee of T'Kon for having the nous to organise a convention on that weekend, particularly for those fans such as ourselves who won't be attending the May con at Canary Wharf (mainly because it's a sod to get to!)

To Ann Looker - Your report of Midcon '93 (Pssst! Want a Free Grope? - N/L 31) was rather misleading. It was *not* just videos and a guest of honour speech. If this was all you saw you missed about 90% of the con. For example, the three main guests (George Takei, Max Grodenchick & Richard Arnold) all gave two talks; there were also talks by Dr Felix Burden (a diabetes specialist) and the Official UK Fan Club. There was a charity auction, a make-up and costume workshop by Hightower Crafts, an excellent fancy dress, disco, four dealers' rooms, art and crafts exhibition and alien pet show. Yes, people do watch videos to see episodes that are new to them; not everyone has SKY or can afford the CIC videos. I remember at my first con in '79 nearly 200 people trying to cram into a room fit for only 50, to see The Empath for the first time. Nothing has changed there!

To Liz Caldwell/Kim Fisher - Re Kira. At last Star Trek has a female character who can hold her own against anything and anyone. Such a character has been sadly lacking since the tragic demise of the excellent Tasha Yar. Like Tasha (and Ro) Kira has had to fight every inch of the way just to survive. Do you really expect the result to be a character who is all feminine wiles and sweetness and light? Kira's anger has helped her keep alive and will continue to sustain her in her fight to help and protect her people. Like any realistic character the events surrounding her continue to mould her personality. She's becoming a more developed and rounded character with every episode - but I hope she continues to be what I admire most in her character - determined, practical, down to earth and able to defend

herself mentally and physically against all comers. Kira is a glass of icy cold water in the arid desert of female characters (particularly in Classic Trek) uttering such hilariously inept lines as "Captain, I'm frightened". All credit to the writers who created her and Nana Visitor who acts the part so well. Long may Kira continue.

• Sarah Jenkin - Gillingham

I enjoyed Gloria Fry's article on Spock, but could it be his attraction to women was due to his unavailability as much as anything else?

Re ST VII. If the original crew is included in the first 20 minutes (according to James Doohan, N/L 32) it would be nice if Chekov finally got his captaincy. I mean, the guy's been Navigator, Chief of Security and even First Officer! As far as we know, Sulu has been none of these things, yet he got the Excelsior! It would be highly appropriate, I think, if Chekov got the Enterprise-B. What do you think?

I like the sound of the new series ST:Voyager. It sounds like it's going to be more like the original series than the other two (TNG, DS9) and the interaction between the characters (what a bunch!) could be something to look forward to!

P.S. - Has anyone been able to figure out where Uhura got those big feathers (?) from in ST V (before Kirk and Co stole the lookout party's horses).

• Jennifer Cobbing - London

To Judith Proctor - Re your article The Universal Translator. We do see this in Metamorphosis, although it is nothing like the implant that we immediately think of. This UT looks like flashlight (which, in reality, it probably was) and is held in the hand and pointed at the subject concerned. In Metamorphosis, Kirk suggests to Spock that they use the UT from the shuttlecraft to communicate with the Companion. When Spock says it is for use with more congruent life forms, Kirk demands that he adjust it, which Spock does by widening its pattern of perception. When Cochrane asks what the

theory is behind the device we get the following explanation:

Kirk - There are certain universal ideas and concepts common to all intelligent life. This device instantaneously compares the frequency of brain wave patterns, selects those ideas and concepts it recognises and then provides the necessary grammar.

Spock - It simply translates its findings into English.

Cochrane - You mean it speaks?

Kirk - With a voice, or the approximation, of whatever the creature is on the sending end. Not 100% efficient, but nothing ever is.

Therefore, the UT depends on perception instead of actual language. This seems a reasonable method and would avoid the pitfalls of translating colloquial language. An alien on Earth could get into trouble with phrases such as "Get your finger out" if it didn't know the meaning behind the words! As for an implanted UT - the idea is familiar but I can't remember where it originally came from. Maybe it's from novels or zines - does anyone know? It's interesting that when Metamorphosis was written in 1967 the idea of a 'Standard' language hadn't been thought of.

To add to the discussion about most life forms being humanoid. In the Classic episode The Paradise Syndrome Spock discovers that a super race called The Preservers passed through the Galaxy rescuing primitive cultures which were in danger of becoming extinct and 'seeding' them where they could live and grow. On hearing this McCoy says "I've always wondered why there are so many humanoids scattered throughout the Galaxy". I think the explanation in the TNG episode The Chase about DNA being scattered through the galaxy is a modern explanation which reflects present day knowledge. I could not find the date that DNA was discovered in my encyclopedia. My old Nurses Dictionary, published in 1968, does not even mention it, so I gather that when The Paradise Syndrome was written (1968) DNA was either unknown or not known outside scientific circles. Both explanations are convenient excuses for nearly all aliens in Trek being Human actors.

Gene Roddenberry said he had humanoid aliens in Trek for the very reason there aren't any alien actors.

To Karen Davies - I've re-read my article and do not think I was being rude and intolerant. I was expressing my dislike of fans who stab a finger at the Kirk badge I like to wear at cons and make aggressive and mocking remarks about my personal taste. I usually give these people my best dirty look and ignore them. I suppose I am being rude by turning my back on these people but my intention is to keep the peace. I want to live in harmony with fellow fans, not have stand-up arguments at every convention.

• Anne-Marie Flowers - Glasgow

To Dave Styles re Melora - This is an attractive story about a girl from a low gravity world who has to have a wheelchair and wear skeletal supports to function on DS9. This is all very well but it occurs to me that a being from such a planet is hardly likely to be humanoid in the first place (The Chase notwithstanding).

To Anne McKay et al - I agree that the characterisation in zines is of a much higher quality than that seen in the professional books. We are told that the publishers have tight guidelines governing storylines etc, but I wonder if it is ever suggested that the authors should a) have watched some episodes from every season to see how the characters have grown and b) should be Star Trek fans themselves.

• K J Atherton - Ormskirk

To the Bolivian Terrorist - OK, I back down. Now promise you won't make me sample the salsa llaj'wa again. That was nearly lethal. Here it is in black and white - don't insult Taruka's curries or she'll make you eat a Bolivian one!

To all fans. I suspect Debbie Lee of some plagiarism in her story MAB. Aside from use of the name Acatl (which also appears in TQ's Golden Star) I offer these paragraphs;

"The light entity snapped off, and then

snapped on again as if a switch had been flicked. The reappearance of MAB coinciding with a marked change in colour and luminosity. Gone was the reddish tinge of previous moments - this time the light was white...

"I said cool it... please MAB."

"Instantly the light dulled to a sullen indigo blue..."

Debbie Lee, MAB P 18 (Oct 1993)

"The light paled, flashed gently then settled to a deep orange glow. Half the cadets could interpret the creature's signals..."

"Auey turned deep red, then faded to purple before becoming a swirling pattern of lilac and white. She turned deep indigo, then resumed the normal golden colour."

Taruka Quauhtezcatl, Pachakuti P 4 (Oct 1992)

It seems to me that one is directly borrowed from the other, and unless MAB was written first then TQ had the idea first. Then again, it could just be coincidence. It is strange that exactly the same idea should turn up in two widely differing stories.

• Debbie Lee - Hounslow (replies)

I have read Pachakuti by TQ, and liked the idea of a 'metaphysical' being so attached to a 'physical' one. It was so appealing that I asked Taruka if I could develop the idea further, and she kindly agreed. The reason the name Acatl appears is because Taruka was kind enough to help me formulate names for the character, as well as possible behaviour. (What an *alien* idea to the ST universe - help and co-operation!) Anyone who has read Pachakuti or Golden Star would have to concede that Taruka's metaphysical characters are far more elaborate and well crafted than poor old MAB. Our styles, individual plotting and writing I still think make two very different stories - but there are only so many ways to describe a light entity!

• Dejan Ladika - Metlika, Slovenia

I thought the rumours about the 4th series were really rumours, but when I received the last N/L I realised that they are not. I must admit, I don't like the idea of

another Trek. I think that Paramount or whoever came out with the idea is pushing the whole thing over the edge. DS9 was already a risky, not very sure project, but this new series on some other ship than Enterprise? I'm sure Gene Roddenberry would be against it and I am also. I'm not saying that Star Trek should die along with Gene, but he was Star Trek. And now without his knowledge they are doing something new. Star Trek is not just 8 people on some ship travelling in space, it's a lot more. Three shows at the same time with the same name? That sounds like some very bad soap. Star Trek is not something everyday, at least not for me. Can you imagine ST on some other starship? It would only be possible if some TNG characters were on it, like Troi and Thomas Riker, but if they are going to do the movie it's ridiculous. I think it would be best if the producers concentrate on what they have now, because they have great stuff and try to make the DS9 series (which works because it's on a space station) and TNG movies the best they can and they should not think about something new which might cost them a lot, in every way.

It's very positive that they are thinking of how to continue ST and maybe this series will come out great and I'll like it, but not everything will be a success if what you are thinking of is how to make more money. You can't just come out with an idea about some ship in space and call it Star Trek. I don't want three shows where I can't find what I'm looking for. I'd be satisfied with one and this one excellent. Are you willing to be fans of four shows?

• **Brenda Allen - Canada**

To any and all who thought that science officers (ie blue suits) don't have to go through command training, just witness the facts presented in Thine Own Self.

Crusher took her testing 8 years ago (she already was a commander when she came aboard the Enterprise) and Troi had to pass a bevy of tests before she earned her third solid pip!

For those confused as to whether or not male and female Deltans are hairless, look at

the Bolians. Mot, the barber, and all other male Bolians I've seen are bald, but in the episode Allegiance, we meet a female Bolian who has a full head of hair! The only reason I even suspected she was the same race as Mot was the distinctive line that splits the face in half.

I have recently read some of the stories in the first Make It So zines (thanks for the loan, Donnie!) It's interesting to note that what was speculated on in these stories is quite different from what we have in 7 years of TNG. Who could have foreseen?

To Marysia Kolodziej - Re why there are so few female androids? The emotions kill them! Andrea in What Are Little Girls Made Of?, Rayna in Requiem for Methuselah, Lal in The Offspring. All of these androids self-destructed when they felt that first spark of emotion! But then again, what about Mudd's androids?

OK, here's a dumb question. With all the CT, TOS, OT, TMP, TWOK, TSFS, TVH, TFF, TUC, TNG AND DS9 floating around, what does OTT mean? (Over The Top? Overt Temper Tantrum?)

Re creation of Genesis. Could it be that Genesis was so unstable because a planetoid was not used in its creation?

At last! Now we know why the Federation has not developed cloaking technology! The Treaty of Algernon stipulated that the Federation would not develop cloaking technology, which has kept peace for 60 years (according to the episode The Pegasus).

According to ST Chronology, the Treaty was signed in 2160 which is more than 200 years ago. Which is right?

• **Pam Baddeley - Farnborough**

To Ann Coulstock - I have to disagree with you about Lessons. I found it far fetched for the simple reason that Picard finds the love of his life and loses her *all in one episode*. If, instead, the earlier scenes had been spread across a number of episodes, it would have given credibility, bringing a gradual

development of the relationship. The segment with her in danger on the planet would have been part of a more complex episode in its own right and would have been far more tense because we would have had time to get to know and care for the character. As it is, it doesn't come off as very believable.

To Stephen Daniels - I don't buy the argument that TNG's success made it easier for the DS9 actors to get into their characters. If you had said it made it possible because the money was more forthcoming for DS9, fair enough, but I view it as a very different programme in its whole approach and 'feel'. I think both programmes stand on their own merits. That's speaking as a TNG fan too. Whatever had gone before, the DS9 people had to create an ensemble from scratch. The only thing I would accept is the SFX people had the benefit of experience of perfecting their techniques on TNG, but the actors and writers had to start from cold.

To Ann Peters - Your solution to the 'career and family' problems seems to be taking it a step further than the centuries-old practice of two types of woman - poor and wealthy. The wealthy ones gave the baby to a wet nurse at birth and it was subsequently raised by nursemaids. In Victorian times this was down to a fine art, with children 'presented' to mother at teatime and boys packed off to boarding school from the age of seven. There were various motives, but breast feeding was certainly seen as a barbaric, animalistic activity and definitely beneath a lady's dignity.

The poor used wet nurses for a different reason. Unable to tolerate a break in employment for economic reasons a lot of women in various eras packed the babies off to wet nurses in the country, having saved a sum of money to pay the nurse. A lot of these children died, often due to neglect by the nurses who saw it merely as a supplement to their incomes. Presumably your proposal assumes stringent standards for the surrogates who would have to be intelligent, responsible and paid enough to give the kid a reasonable standard of living. I still think this avoids the real problem which

is a lot of men don't shoulder sufficient responsibility for their children. As far as it not being their biological responsibility, I would say yes it is, if they want their genes perpetuated!

• David John Raper - Hull

To Michelle Oldroyd - In The Enemy Romulans did cross the border but were detected because they wanted to be but in Face of the Enemy they were attempting to do so undetected and were afraid Starfleet had set up a tachyon detection grid like that seen in Redemption II, the point being that such a system will detect even a cloaked ship but requires a minimum of two ships to implement and so is impractical for a Starship, since it relies on the breaking of a tachyon beam between two points, like a tripwire.

To Neil J Humphrys - According to the TNG Tech. Manual, a holodeck projection is centred around the individual(s) concerned, individually, adjusting for each one's point of view. In Ship in a Bottle, Picard, Data and Barclay were never more than metres apart in reality, each was 'encapsulated' in his own part of the program, a bubble if you will, which adjusted as they 'moved' to give the illusion that they were on board the Enterprise, merging as they came together within the projection.

To Michael Farquhar and Sandra Hunger - I did not mean to imply that Starfleet should resort to 'Big Brother' tactics, I was thinking more on the lines of off-duty personnel checking in on a daily basis with a brief coded message of just a simple 'Having a great time' - the point being that if kidnapped the messages would stop and Starfleet would be alerted, using a code would ensure that if replaced by a fake, the fake would be unable to supply the code and once again Starfleet would be alerted (the kidnapped could supply his captors with a false code). It has been done - during WWII underground radio operators were required to send daily codes in their transmission, the omission of which signified that they were in the hands of the enemy but pretending to co-operate. Surely Starfleet could come up with something similar?

To Marie I J Park - Having read The Romulan Prize, and seen the reference to Lt Cmdr Worf, I can only suggest that maybe the writer or editor was a little careless or indulging in some wishful thinking. In those 7th season episodes I have seen, Worf is still a lieutenant, except in Parallels, but that was not our Worf - though he did look good in red and his wife was a pleasant surprise, as was Captain Riker (though the thought of a reality where the Borg succeeded does not bear thinking about).

And finally, ST:Voyager. While the Voyager will not be the Enterprise-D, it is still a Starship exploring the unknown and a long way from home. I hope that it works out as a worthy successor to TNG - though not a replacement, as TNG is not a replacement for CT. I also hope that we are prepared to be open-minded about it, until we have seen it that is; though I would have liked TNG to carry on, I will be the first in line for the film and looking forward to seeing Enterprise-D on the big screen as much as I enjoyed seeing its predecessor. To anyone who has never seen Trek on the big screen, if you get a chance it is well worth seeing. In the meantime, let's have a little tolerance for something new, something different - ie IDIC.

• Gillian Bent - Hamilton

Of the ten episodes of season 7 TNG I have seen, I have to say I like it so far. My favourites are Parallels, The Pegasus and Attached. I think Parallels is both a funny and a serious episode. I really felt sorry for Commander (Captain?) Riker and his crew who, in their universe, were being taken over by the Borg. I don't blame him for not wanting to go back.

I like the way that Attached goes into the past and present relationship of Beverly and Picard. It explains how they met and reveals more about their pasts.

Does anyone have any favourite novels or authors of any of the three ST series? I've not read many but those I have read are mostly by Peter David (I think he is excellent). My favourites are Q in Law and Imzadi, and I would recommend them to

everyone. The trouble is, I'm running out of ST books written by him, so I'd be grateful if someone could help me. Does anyone know of any other books Peter David has written that are not ST?

To Clement Chung - I saw Brent Spiner on SKY One's Night Court. I also saw Nana Visitor in a later episode (9.2.94).

To Pam Baddeley - I thought it was great to see Beverly as a 'cool, competent Captain' in Descent, but I disagree with you when you say she shouldn't have been left in command of the Enterprise. Granted Beverly wouldn't be my first choice for the CMO but she is a high-ranking officer (presumably the highest left on board) and she has been trained by Starfleet in what to do in emergency situations like this.

Finally I would like to thank all at IDIC for a great year. Since joining last March I have made new friends, been to a convention and realised I'm not the only one nuts about Star Trek, and, more importantly, there are others nuttier than me. Thanks again, and I'm looking forward to another great year.

Questions

• Mrs Boycott - Does anyone know how Leonard Nimoy came by the scar on his right cheek? It seemed to appear in the first Star Trek Movie - or was it always there and concealed by make-up?

Sheila - I read somewhere that his brother hit him with a spade when they were teenagers. You can just see the mark, very faintly, on his right cheek in third season episodes.

Suggestions

• Christine Carr - Could you publish a list of useful addresses? A while ago I wanted to write to Paramount and had a job finding the address.

Janet: We know some addresses but it would help if members would send me any addresses they think could be useful to other fans. I will then compile a list.]

Dave Styles - Most letters in the postbag

refer to letters in previous newsletters. So that we can rapidly find out what a person is talking about, would it be possible to put the contributions in alphabetical order corresponding to the writers' names?

Janet - While your idea seems reasonable, it would be very difficult to do, and transferring letters around the postbag would increase the risk of losing sections or attaching paragraphs to the wrong letter.

There is also the point that it would mean some people's letters would always appear early in the postbag, and others at the end. That wouldn't be fair. At the moment

they are more-or-less typed in the order of receipt.

Can You Help?

• Nanaki Kaur - Is there a fan club for Marina Sirtis? I have heard that Imzadi is no longer running.

• K Parker - I would welcome any information on "PRECIES SQUARES" (please excuse spelling). I have heard the name mentioned a few times in episodes of TNG, but I would like more data if possible.

☆☆☆☆

GUEST TALKS STARBASE 94

reported by Jean Sloan

GEORGE TAKEI

George Takei was impressed with the architecture of Leeds, and says he will come back to explore it further. He talked a little about the earthquake and about the courage of people dealing with the devastation. When he left LA, aftershocks were still occurring...

Those of you who read my report on George's talk at Midcon may recall that he is writing his memoirs. He said a little more about that. He spent some of his childhood in internment camps and he wants to record those memories. His deadline is now March 15th - a date hanging over him like the Sword of Damocles.

He had some news about ST VII which is supposed to start filming in April. Leonard Nimoy does not wish to be involved - he has other projects on; the script involves the death of a character (personal note at the end of the article); the script at the moment is in a mess and subject to rewrites; further uncertainty is caused by the battle to take over Paramount, being conducted by QVC and Viacom, which is interfering with decision making.

Anyway, George was in good form at SB '94. How I admire him for his ability to be lively and sociable before breakfast! He signed autographs endlessly, personalising each one, and he had something to say to everyone.

At SB '93, Jimmy Doohan said that if George picked up a weapon on the set, everyone ducked. George had a chance to get his own back, by telling an anecdote about Jimmy.

When The Naked Time was shooting, George was practising fencing behind some flats; Jimmy Doohan, attracted by the strange grunts coming from the corner, stuck his nose round the scenery and nearly had it chopped off. If Jimmy had not been so nosy(!) there would have been no near-accident. George reckons that the *only* source of his reputation for over-swashing his buckle is that incident.

Someone asked what George thought of DS9: he felt that it was too grim during the first season, but that now they are adding more humour and character interplay. It is doing well in the ratings, some weeks beating TNG. He would like to be 'incarnated' into DS9 but not as 150 years old - the make-up call would be too early!

In his second talk on the convention Sunday, George told his Alton Towers story. I think it has been reported before, so I will not repeat it. I hadn't actually heard it before - I haven't laughed so much in a long time...

He was asked about Bill Shatner as a director. He characterised Bill's directional style as 'like a cheerleader' and added that this style was "uniquely his".

George said that he is always lobbying for things - with more disappointments than successes, eg for a TV series for Captain Sulu... His worst moment in ST was one episode with lots of Klingons or Romulans lying around in a corridor, along which he had to make a carefully choreographed run - avoiding bodies and appendages. Rehearsals went fine, but on the take, as he was running he stepped on something and heard a crunching sound. The take was completed successfully, but the second the director yelled "Cut!" there was a scream from the floor. He had stepped on a hand. He couldn't remember the name of the episode - Day of the Dove?

His favourite memory of Britain is acting in Underflow at the Edinburgh Festival in 1988(?). His agent is having talks about the possibility of reviving this play in London. George loved York, Chester, the hospitality of the British. He has happy memories of summer school at Stratford. He has played Cassius in Julius Caesar in the States, and said that he "has the hubris of every actor to want to play Hamlet".

His film Return to the River Kwai has not yet been shown in the States because of a copyright battle over the title. The crew and cast of the production were mainly British, but there was one Japanese actor (I didn't get the name) - well-known - had worked with Kurasawa; this man could not speak English and George worked with him as speech coach; the actor had to learn his lines parrot fashion, and found the whole experience really hard, though it doesn't show on the film. George still keeps in touch with him.

He worked with John Wayne in The Green Berets, which was shot in Georgia

between the 1st/2nd seasons of ST. John Wayne starred in and directed the film. He "directs like a traffic cop"; he threw the script out and made it up as they went along. John W is the character he plays. It was interesting to see a legend in action.

Addendum. Starbase '94 was a most enjoyable con. The first con I went to was at the Leeds Hilton and I have a soft spot for the hotel. I enjoyed SB '93 with Jimmy Doohan. The Starbase cons are developing a character of their own - friendly, relaxed, not too big, with a packed programme which is a video-watcher's paradise. One (new) fan didn't go to bed all weekend! Thanks to the committee for changing my post-Christmas depression into post-con depression! (They're doing it again next year).

Personal note - Rumours that Kirk dies in ST VII have been circulating in the Press. I hope Captain Kirk is not killed off - I would hate that - I'd much rather the crew disappeared into the sunset as at the end of ST VI. However, as George said, in ST there are always possibilities; perhaps the dead character is found alive during the film... CIC

GUEST PANEL

- Terry Shuttleworth, Stuart Clark
Simon & Schuster - Paul Evans
Titan Books - Jenny Boyce
Official Fan Club - Tim Gaskell

Points of information arising from the panel:

CIC - Season 7 TNG, Season 2 DS9; both released on sell through on March 7th; to accompany DS9 Season 2 release, there will be a poster of the ST universe at a price of £1.50.

Mission Impossible is scheduled for release in April. Some episodes of Quantum Leap will be released, but not the whole series; CIC does not have the rights to the music, and it is too expensive to obtain them. They will buy the rights for some episodes.

Concern was expressed about CIC

releasing Special Editions after the normal episode release. They will continue to do this, but Terry's advice is to ask at your supplier; the outlets are kept informed by CIC of promotional ventures.

CIC has a direct mail service, not just for Star Trek but for other collectible items. If you want more information, get in touch with CIC.

Simon & Schuster - Paul Evans said they are interested in feedback from fans.

They are taking over the publishing of new ST novels from Titan. Hardbacks will be £9.99 in future.

Audio tapes are to be repackaged into plastic cases.

They are starting to tour authors - watch out for Diane Duane
 - developing a young adult series (for the 11+ age group).
 - seeking to develop club links
 - planning on launching publications simultaneously in the USA and UK in future.

Titan - Started publishing ST in 1987 and will continue to publish their novel list to date, plus the graphic novels. They have tried to persuade booksellers to make a ST corner in the bookshops. If your local shop hasn't got one, Jenny Boyce's advice is to ask why not. Bookstores need to know that the demand exists.

To date there are 1,600,000 ST books in

print.

Coming in May from Titan - All I Need to Know I Learned from ST, written by a fan - sort of Star Trek life skills, humorously presenting lessons to be learned from episodes.

OUKFC - Tim Gaskell. Ex CIC and a fan, Tim is to redesign the magazine, hopefully making it more interesting to established fans. However, he re-stated that the aim of the club is to bring in *new* fans.

Tim was able to offer a few comments on ST developments.

- Patrick Stewart likes the ST VII script
- Voyager is in pre-production; some scripts exist, but it has not been cast yet
- Voyager will be 'set up' through DS9 and NG7 - look out for hints in coming episodes.

Back to the OUKFC; they want to set up special promotions. They want feedback on what people want - eg would a ST trip to LA be interesting? (Personal comment - Tim Gaskell knows his stuff better than the other OUKFC people we have been confronted with at cons. It seems that the quality of the magazine is being addressed - though the OUKFC reiterate that their aim is to target new fans. I suppose that one way to introduce those new fans to established clubs is for the established clubs to advertise in the OUKFC. However, as far as I am concerned, the merchandising angle of the OUKFC, ie quality, relative cost, etc, still needs to be addressed, and I watch developments with a Spock-like raised eyebrow.)

☆☆☆☆

A BRIEF REPORT OF STARBASE '94

Leeds, 28 - 30 January '94

reported by Nicole Comtet

After a very rough flight from Paris airport to Leeds-Bradford, I finally landed in the middle of the night - and of a snowstorm - glad to find a taxi at the deserted airport to take me through the night to the Hilton in Leeds Centre. It was indeed one of the worst

flights I ever had, the fault of a gale which raged over the west of Europe on that night. The aircrew could do nothing against the wind save call it 'turbulence'!

I was very pleased with the Hilton -

comfortable room, good service (even to bringing breakfast to the room at 5 in the morning), very nice restaurant, video rooms and pleasant staff.

I was also very pleased with the city of Leeds which I explored on the following morning. Very interesting city centre, shopping streets, Victorian buildings and shopping arcades, Corn Exchange turned into a shopping mall and restaurant, a huge Central Market and naturally all the shops that I always look for when in England - Marks & Spencer, Boots, Virgin, HMV, Smith & Son etc. Halfway through the morning I took a coffee break and an expresso at... McCoy's, a nice little coffee shop near Victoria Arcade.

On my return to the hotel, whom did I meet on the escalator? George Takei, who had just arrived from Los Angeles. At least he was safe and sound, but looked rather tired after a long flight of 11 hours without any sleep.

At 2pm on Friday, the Convention began properly with a number of videos in 3 different rooms - I have to say this for this Convention, that they respect Original Trek as much as the last 2 series. For the first time in years I have seen Original Trek shown on a large screen and in a fairly large room, which is a nice change from the bad habit some conventions have now of showing it in a small room on TV screens. We were even treated to ST:VI on laser disc, and it makes a big difference to the quality of the sound.

Besides the 3 ST series we could also watch a number of good SF videos and we had the preview of the pilot of Tekwar, the new series inspired by the books of Bill Shatner. Not having read the books I found it a bit confusing, but I found it interesting although rather violent. The actors look good, and Bill who, I believe, plays the part of the boss, looks so different from Captain Kirk that he seems another man altogether, except for his voice and diction which of course are easily identifiable.

Not being interested in the least in TNG, I spent my time between the guests'

panel, George's talks and the sales rooms, trying to fit in between as many episodes of Original Trek and DS9 as possible - I managed to view most of DS9 second season, and I am getting more and more interested in the show, the characters and the things which make this series so different from TNG. The DS9 characters are improving with every episode, their relationships are getting more and more interesting. Of course they cannot compete with the Original Trek characters, but they all have something to attract the viewer, especially Odo, Dax and Kira, my favourites. The episodes I preferred are The Alternate, Melora, Necessary Evil and Homecoming, The Circle and The Siege which form a very dramatic trilogy. But what I like best about DS9 is the fact that it is something different, something of its own, and I hope it will stay that way. The music and the view of the base with the wormhole are truly beautiful and put me in the mood right away.

George was his usual self, ever charming, cheerful and ready to give the best of himself. With three long talks and long autograph sessions he must have been exhausted but he seemed to have enjoyed himself as much as we all did. It is true that the Convention was specially pleasant and friendly, because not overcrowded like so many Conventions nowadays. The number of attendees was limited and, as George said, it was so nice to meet people anywhere, in the lift, the restaurant etc, and talk and chat with everyone. He appreciated this relationship very much and said it was such a change from the US conventions where the guests were smuggled in and out through the back door and never had a chance to meet the fans informally.

Naturally George mentioned the LA earthquake and described the havoc and destruction. His agent, who lives in the San Fernando Valley, lost everything; his house was crushed by the quake. But, as always in times of hardship, the Angelenos reacted with great courage and a spirit of solidarity which must be commended. Still, it has been a great blow for California, on top of all the others. George told us the sad joke about California's five seasons: the season of

drought, the season of flood, the season of the fires, the season of the riots and the season of earthquake.

George also told us the latest about ST:VII. They are supposed to start filming in April, but it looks more and more questionable; the script is being rewritten for the umpteenth time. None of the original cast who were supposed to participate have been yet notified by Paramount. Leonard Nimoy will definitely not be involved, having other commitments at the moment, and George has misgivings about that because as he said, now that Gene Roddenberry is gone, the man who had been with Star Trek from the start, who was the key, the backbone of the show, was Leonard.

His book should be released in the USA in November. He has not decided yet about the title - he asked the opinion of the

audience and I think the vote, from a choice of three titles, was for Yesterday, Today and the Galaxy.

I must say I admire George's resilience, to be able to resist so well the strain of 3 days of conventions.

The CIC representative was also present and said that from April CIC was going to release the whole series of Mission Impossible. When I asked about Never Forget by L. Nimoy, he did not know anything about it but would try to get information.

It was on the whole a very enjoyable con, and if they obtain another guest like George next year I shall certainly attend Starbase '95. All my thanks to the Committee.

☆☆☆☆

STARBASE '94

or WAS THAT WHO I THOUGHT IT WAS?

by David J Raper & Marie I J Park

Friday 28th Jan 1994 - We arrived at the Leeds Hilton after an hour on the train and wondering if we had got it right. Riding the escalator we said hello to George Takei who was going down it the other way... Convention confirmed! And me with my camera at the bottom of the suitcase, dammit!

Then to Reception, to sign in, pick up our con packs, head for our room and unpack, though not for too long because the videos were running and there was a lot to see before the opening ceremony. It was going to be a busy weekend for two complete novices determined to overload on Star Trek and get that one irreplaceable memento without which no con is complete - unfortunately everyone else had the same idea, so it was a case of getting in that queue early! A somewhat jetlagged George Takei did his best but after an opening ceremony and speech was promptly hustled off for the

sleep that he needed, but there were still two whole days to go.

Together we settled down to watch what was fresh from the US of A until the small hours, and then to bed, tired but happy and determined to get that souvenir!

Saturday 29th Jan - This morning we were in a state of near panic! Our traveller's alarm had failed on its first true test. Fortunately a spare battery was to hand and the whole day loomed before us. So, breakfast first and leave camera where it will be safe because who needs a camera at breakfast? So we bumped into George Takei while waiting for the lift and had a chat with him, trying (and probably failing) not to look overawed, and not an autograph book, photo of movie magazine between us! Was this merely fate or the result of an insidious plot hatched by the Klingons we met the night

before, who seemed a pretty nice bunch and at least they don't eat tribbles in public. We settled down for a morning of non-stop DS9 before moving down to the main hall to catch the antics of a guest panel, which consisted of representatives from CIC Videos, Pocket Books, Titan Books, Simon & Schuster Publications and the Official ST Fan Club. Afterwards we did a spot of shopping because neither of us had been to Leeds before.

Unfortunately another precious opportunity was missed for *that* souvenir, not least because Security was there to stop latecomers joining what was already a very lone line... argh! In recompense we were at pains to get good seats for Saturday's talk and George looked a lot better for the sleep he'd obviously needed and said so. This despite spending three hours engaged in an autograph marathon during which he took time to speak to everyone who was there, including many he'd already signed for on the previous day.

His talk and the following question and answer session were as entertaining as ever, at least to those of us who were new, and I would gladly hear them again. Amidst the flashing cameras he seemed quite happy to be there at such an 'intimate' gathering, with only a few hundred as opposed to the thousands you get at American cons, which sound quite intimidating. Our only regret was that it was too short and when it was over we wouldn't see him again until the next day.

Then to the fancy dress and cabaret, which seemed to go down quite well, except that we managed to miss what everyone else seemed to agree was a truly hilarious routine by Norman Lovett, the original Holly from Red Dwarf. Well, we live and learn, and were once again up till the smallest hours overdosing on more Trek, including a very entertaining recorded routine by Shatner and Nimoy during their con in California from some years ago. We finally staggered off to bed.

Sunday 30th Jan - This was Autograph or Bust! Before dashing off to the relevant

queue(s) there was Norman Lovett's talk and question and answer session. Quite a few of the questions were concerned with his stint as Holly in Red Dwarf before being replaced by Hattie Hayridge. He was deadpan in his delivery, but it clearly didn't stop us from getting up to see him as he was very, very funny. On this occasion there were two queues rather than just the one. We finally obtained autographs both from George Takei and Norman Lovett, even though the latter was in something of a hurry that day, but he still managed to work his way through a long queue of people who'd got their George Takei autographs over the previous two days! In our case, we had some photographs signed as well as the convention programme and an ST:VI movie magazine. On this day the attendees were only allowed to go round the once, because the organisers wanted everyone done as quickly as possible, rather than some people twice and others not at all.

We were still amazed how fast people line up for a famous guest's autograph. As it was, the tactically placed stall selling photographs of Captain Sulu, placed just back from the front of the queue, did a brisk trade - all for charity, I might add - and fortunately both guests had a good supply of pens to hand.

Then, to the Dealers' Room for a look at temptation and maybe we should have gone earlier, before blowing the day's budget on signed photographs and lunch. Then George's final guest talk, but the auction, for charity mostly, had overrun by almost an hour but it was for a good cause and George was worth the wait, with the "Alton Towers Saga" by popular demand. If there's a reason to buy the con video, that was it.

And then, sadly, the closing ceremony, with prize-giving and raffle draws by you-know-who and the Klingons Kleaned Up at the raffle! A plot, perhaps, aimed at discrediting one of Starfleet's finest officers? We shall have to see. Meanwhile, congratulations and hysteria as the winners collected their prizes and the rest of us clapped enthusiastically and tried not to be too jealous.

But all good things must come to an end (why?) and so, with the presentation to the very special guest of a piece of local history - a Victorian theatre poster - and a little mutual congratulations to the committee and the hotel - thanks guys! - Starbase '94 came to a close... sob, sob!

Wearily we left the main hall for the

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Scrooge: The Dickens Generation (How IAAPS stormed the Old Vic ...)

by Margaret Rainey

"Once Upon A Time, and of all the good days in the year, on Christmas Eve" Well, OK, so it was actually a little *after* Christmas Eve, but why waste the chance to quote an almost perfect phrase from Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol"! Once Upon A Time, then, Patrick Stewart finally fulfilled his ambition to bring his one-man stage version of Dickens' classic tale to London, and not just any old time, but the Christmas Season of the 150th anniversary of the story's birth. To be precise, the show ran for 16 performances between December 28th 1993 and January 8th 1994, at the Old Vic Theatre, London, marking Mr Stewart's first return to the British stage in 7 years.

The International Audience Alliance for Patrick Stewart (IAAPS, his official fan club) of which, for my sins in previous lives, I am one of the UK organisers, couldn't pass up the opportunity to celebrate this rare occasion of having Patrick back among us for a while. So we decided to hold a "Weekend", blockbook show tickets for club members at the last performance on Saturday January 8th, stay overnight, and hold a get-together in a London hotel next day on Sunday January 9th. We got ourselves organised, with a little help from our friends (to coin a phrase), and ended up with the front six rows of the theatre for the last night show ... 90 of us!

IAAPS members (known collectively as Stargazers, or 'Gazers for short) descended from all parts of the UK and beyond ...

last time, trudged upstairs to see the final three hours of *Trek: Parallels* and *The Pegasus* (7th season *Next Gen*) and *Rivals* (2nd season *DS9*) hooray! Then it was all over.

And the final verdict? We loved it and the next time we'll love it some more.

France, Germany, and even a passing US member on vacation at just the right time. Never having met in such numbers before, this was the ideal opportunity for members to get to know each other a lot better, and share their enthusiasms without being thought "strange" ... you know the feeling! We gathered on Saturday night in the hotel lobby, and crocoddled down to the Old Vic ... must have been quite a sight on the Tube! Most people were seeing the show for the first time, and were pretty excited. Although I had seen it before, I too was excited, anticipating that with no shows left to do *after* this one, Patrick could stop keeping himself "in reserve", and really "go for it" on the last night.

The stage setting was bare apart from a pile of heaped wooden furniture in the centre. Down went the lights, 'Gazers held their breath in anticipation, up came the spotlight on a figure centre stage holding open a red folder. Patrick Stewart! "Marley" he spat out, "was dead. To begin with, there was no doubt whatsoever about *that*." The performance was under way, and what a performance. I was correct in my hopes - Patrick threw energy reserves, inhibitions, and caution to the four winds, and just took off and *sared* that night. It was spectacular. I'd been at the show the previous night, and it had been a *good* performance all the more so for Patrick admitting *after* it, that he'd felt ill from about 10 minutes into it, and it had been like watching someone *else* perform while he

was detached from it all (though you couldn't have told from out front) but on Saturday, he was not only good, he was far *beyond* good, into the realms of excellence, and was obviously having a ball while doing so.

The time flew; the characters (39 of them) came and went perfectly, each one finely etched in the audience's collective imagination by a master craftsman at work. The humour, the horror, the pathos, the joy, the facial expressions, the body language, the lithe movements, the intensity of a dozen different emotions, some in rapid succession, the lighting effects complementing the actions perfectly, the power of Dickens' prose and phrases, the redemption of Ebenezer Scrooge on Christmas Day it all added up to a wonderful theatrical experience, in which one man populated a stage all by himself, and weaved wondrous spells over us all. Storytelling at its best.

All too soon, it was over, and the entire theatre rose as one to cheer. With the front six rows cheering loudest, of course. Patrick indulged himself that final night with an extra bow, and well deserved it, looking emotional and very pleased at the reception he was receiving. We passed up a bouquet of flowers from the 'Gazers, and taking them, he retreated a few paces back, then in a final gesture, he brought a triumphant fist up to accompany the "YESSSSS!" He grinned towards us, in what was probably a combination of relief that it was all over and he'd survived, and satisfaction at achieving the long-held ambition to do the show in London! Not something you'd ever see Captain Picard doing, but all the more charming for precisely that reason! We all floated out of the Old Vic that night, buoyed up by memories of a remarkable performance ... no doubt about it, much as I like TNG, it does *not* stretch Patrick Stewart to one tenth of his acting capabilities.

The second part of our Weekend was the Sunday "Picardathon". We expected to have fun, watch videos, auction some goodies, have lunch, and generally enjoy ourselves meeting fellow 'Gazers the one thing we *didn't* expect was Patrick to appear

among us. The timing of our weekend was not fortuitous from his point of view, Sunday being the day he had to fly back to L.A.; but as the previous weekend had been a holiday (New Year very little public transport, no chance of hotel accommodation) we had no choice but to plan our event for the final weekend of the show's run. That being the case, and his Sunday schedule being so tight, Patrick had indicated near his arrival in the UK that much as he'd like to, he very much regretted he could *not* attend the 'Gazer event on Sunday. As one of the organisers of the Weekend (my partner-in-crime being Pat Mitchell), I had in all good faith sent out the last update a few days before the event, telling people *not* to expect to see Patrick on Sunday, so that noone would be disappointed on the day by dashed expectations.

Then the situation changed. Patrick indicated that he'd been thinking hard about Sunday, and it was *just* possible he *might* be able to squeeze in a visit after all, but as he would be unable to confirm this till the weekend itself, I was not to tell anyone. An Aldebaran Shellmouth had nothing on me! And then when he finally confirmed that he *would* come for a short time, on the Sunday morning *itself*, I was able to drop a bombshell on the assembled masses, giving them 15 minutes warning of the surprise of their lives. And the thud of dropping jaws must have been audible halfway across London!

Patrick had in fact put back his flight by about 3 hours, in order to fit in a brief visit with the 'Gazers, followed by lunch with his children, before he left for the airport. Considering the hectic nature of his schedule while in London, we were (and are) all amazed and extremely grateful that he *went* to this trouble, when less considerate mortals wouldn't have *bothered* to make the effort for "mere" fans. It was an effort indeed much appreciated by all present, and speaks volumes for the kind of person he is.

On his arrival at around 9.50am, Patrick came into the room to warm applause. Obviously tired after the rigours of 16 performances in 12 days, and a little subdued because of it, he was nonetheless

charming and appreciative of the 'Gazer support the night before. An instant rapport was established when he mentioned that he didn't have much voice left this morning, and that if anyone should fail to hear him the only thing to do was get closer! He then asked that everyone stop flash photography, and there was an instant cessation and downing of cameras. Speaking of the timing of the event being bad from his point of view, and explaining why he could stay only briefly as a result, but was nevertheless pleased to be with us, he broke off after putting his hands into his trouser pockets, to exclaim "My word ... look what I've just found. I've just found my house key." Much laughter as the key in question was displayed. "I wasn't going to travel in these trousers and about 16 hours from now there was going to be a terrible scene outside my front door, as I started unpacking looking for the house key" Thankfully that scenario had been averted, and safe entry to the Stewart household in L.A. was now assured.

Patrick spoke about the run of "Christmas Carol" in London, and his feelings now that it had come to an end. "Yesterday was a day of mixed emotions, because I was, on the one hand, actually quite happy to see the run end ... I was getting very tired progressively more exhausted, this being my Christmas "holiday", and on the one hand I'm really very glad I don't have to do "Christmas Carol" today, or tomorrow, or the day after, but at the same time .. not only me, but Kate Elliot and Fred Allen (Production team), have been so excited and moved by the experience of being at the Old Vic and doing the play *here*, that when we faced the reality last night that we weren't going to come back into that Stage Door again, into that dressing room again ... we went to say our own private goodbye to the stage. We felt really sad. The experience of doing the play here has been very odd. In the first ... well, if I were to tell you that just under two weeks ago, at the first preview... in the first few moments that I was on stage, I experienced *all* of my worst nightmares about coming back to England. Because for six years in the United States, and especially in New York for the last two

winters, my arrival on stage always either brought the audience to their feet, or there was a round of applause, and immediately after that I would say something that was mildly funny, and they would react, and I would be very much aware of an *enthusiastic* audience."

"Well, a week last Tuesday night, Kate called "Go cue three" and the lights came up and I walked on stage simultaneously ... to *crashing* silence. Silence which continued for about 20 minutes. I felt as though I was doing a dress rehearsal, there was nobody in the auditorium except me, and it was simply horrible, and very very frightening. All of my nightmares that it was a terrible mistake to come back here at *all* were *realised* in those minutes. But the one thing that *didn't* happen was that there was any sense of *disinterest*; once I'd calmed down and tried to pay attention to what was going on, I realised that I had an audience that was *listening* very very carefully. And that characterised the whole experience. Never, *ever* have we played "Christmas Carol" in front of audiences that have been so attentive; they just haven't *communicated* particularly strongly, at least not during the first week. The first Saturday, I remember, when we did two shows, was simply horrible, because I played the matinee to almost total silence ... except for the *end* of the show, when there was terrific enthusiasm, so I went off at the end of the matinee and heard the applause, and was shaking my head to Kate and Fred in the wings, saying "How can I understand these people?! We don't speak the same language any more". "

"But during this past week, I began to see that a lot of it was to do with *me*, as well as to do with the audiences, and that I had to *adjust* how I was playing it. Playing to an English audience in the West End is not like playing on Broadway, and it requires a different approach, and different style and technique. And in a sense, the audiences here needed to be *seduced* a little more, to be *wooed*, and so wooing is what I set about to do. It proved to be effective, so by except for Friday night, which was an experience I don't want to repeat, because I wasn't feeling well

this last week, has been absolutely marvellous, and certainly by yesterday we felt that ... we didn't *feel*, we *know*, that the show is better than it's *ever* been in its whole history, and what the English audiences encouraged *me* to do, and the new perspective that they required that I *take* meant that the play grew into something that it had not been before. In conversations with people who've seen the play, it's perfectly clear that here in England it has done *all* of the things that I secretly hoped it *might* do six years ago when I started work on it. Despite its success in America, I didn't achieve that; although people enjoyed it as a piece of theatre, its other function, which was as a political and sociological piece, wasn't really having an impact. But what has happened this week, is that I've had people coming to my dressing room, or over the dinner table afterwards, and talk about *politics* and the play, which satisfies me enormously. So the reaction to the performance has been totally different, and very very satisfying. But to speak absolutely frankly, I'm so glad I don't have to do it today! What I know I will never, ever, *ever* do again, is 8 performances a week"

Patrick then moved on to the subject of TNG, and told how until two days previously, his call back at Paramount was going to be 6.15am Monday morning, but that it had been changed at the last minute and was now Tuesday morning, so as a result, he would miss the first day of Gates McFadden's directorial debut, only the second woman ever to direct TNG. "So not only is that distinctive, but it also means that yet another member of the cast, and someone who absolutely deserves it, is getting a chance to direct." As far as he could see from the script, it appeared to be a two-hander episode between himself and Brent Spiner, so he would spend much of the next week or two alone at Paramount with Brent. "Many things could be more unpleasant than that." [This episode is in fact called "Genesis"] Patrick himself still had one episode to direct before the season (and show) ended, and he would complete this by the end of February. Then he was due to appear at "What will certainly be my last convention appearance

in the United States while we are making Star Trek, which is going to be in Denver, which simply by accident, happens to be the very first city that I ever attended a convention in."

Following the end of the last episode, Patrick intended to take a week's break, before starting on the TNG movie. "One thing I *will* be returning to will be the second draft of the script for the movie what can I tell you about it that I'm *allowed* to tell you about it? It needed a lot of work. It was not a *movie* at that point, it was an extended episode, if you understand what I mean. But it's in the process of becoming a movie now at the *moment* the script includes every single principal member of the original series, as well as all of us, but I am told *not* to rely on that being the movie that will eventually be made. I *hope* it is, because I've always believed, ever since the feature film became a possibility *years* ago, that the first NG movie should be a transitional movie, one in which there was a visible handing over of the baton from the original cast to the NG cast. And so the script that they have produced is *exactly* that..... it does include, at the moment, a long, extended sequence between the two Captains, side by side... in a critical situation... of course, what else?! And there are some good jokes in it... very good... *excellent* jokes in it."

Following the end of the Movie in early July, "I'm going to take 8 - 10 weeks off, for the first time in my life I'm going to take a *serious* holiday... *although*... in the last few days, a number of projects here in England have come up which could just jeopardise that.... but that's what I plan to do. And then ... round about the 12th September, I expect to be back here in London rehearsing a play. In fact, as I think is probably common knowledge now, I shall be picking up the threads of my career here *exactly* where I dropped them 7 years ago, when I made a decision to go to California to do the pilot of NG instead of transferring from the Young Vic to the West End "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf". Well, now we're going to take "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf" into the West End. Fortunately I'm still *just* young enough to play the same role. (George) As

one of the coProducers of that venture, I expect it to happen, and David Thacker, with whom I had dinner last night will be the director, as he was in 1987." Patrick told how they planned to cast an American actress as Martha, and how he would be spending the next few months wining and dining beautiful stars to find someone to play opposite him in London. It has to be said he didn't seem *too* put out by the hardship this will entail! He also spoke briefly about having been in conversation about doing more work with the RSC, but that would certainly be at least two years away yet. He then answered a few questions from 'Gazers, indicating that no plans exist at present to videotape "Christmas Carol" until he finds someone with a vision of how to do it properly ... He doesn't know what that vision is, but he won't do it till he finds out.

It was drawing time for him to leave, and with a few parting remarks of thanks for our support last night, and for him personally in his career, Patrick also mentioned that Marina would certainly like him to pass on her best wishes to fellow Brits, and noted that "Marina is the *only* member of the cast that sent me a telegram" (for opening night) ... "Awww" of sympathy from the audience ... "But they will all pay the price

when I get back". And then to enthusiastic applause, he was gone, and the 'Gazers were left to float gently to Earth.

The day would have been a success in any event, coming as it did, hot on the heels of such a superb performance of "Christmas Carol", and allowing British 'Gazers to mingle in good numbers for the first time; but to have Patrick go so far out of his way, when he was obviously so tired, to come along and speak to us, was just the icing on the cake. He certainly made our Weekend very special, and we extend our public thanks to him. Nice to see that "Hollywood" hasn't gone to his head, and that he's considerate enough about his fans to make an effort to meet them, even at personally inconvenient times.

The remainder of our day was filled with videos, a raffle and auction (which raised around £500 for charity), lunch in the hotel restaurant, more videos, lots of chat, and general good 'Gazer fun. Considering that we'd had to throw our planned schedule away a mere 90 minutes before the event started (thanks to a Certain Person coming at short notice!), we did not too badly! And now that we've got a taste for it, it *might* even be the start of an IAAPS tradition!



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LALCON - MOAT HOUSE SCHOOL, BASILDON

Reported by Jill Clements

I'm writing this a day after LALCON in Basildon. Moat House School was easily found as a detailed map had been sent with the welcoming letter. The three video rooms were showing Classic Trek and films, DS9, STNG end of season 6 and season 7. Next Gen gets better each season and there really is *no reason* for it to end. Unfortunately, the dealers' tables were in the Next Gen room (bad move). There was only instant tea or squash and tea cakes available (again in the Next Gen room) but I should have realised it wasn't the Tollgate Motel and facilities would be limited. Liz Tuckett (the entire committee) was a whirlwind. Made me dizzy watching

her. Well done, Liz.

Anyway, for those of you who have seen season 7, were you on the edge of your seat at the end of Attached? Only one word to say to Beverly. "FOOL!" By the time Parallels came on my daughter Melanie was as spellbound as I. The collective sigh from both male and female audience (you know where I mean) was amazing. Oh, Worfl


The Data moment with Spot and ball of twine was another one of Brent Spiner's timing miracles, and the scenes with his 'mother' were incredible.

The dealer tables were full of photos and zines, etc, and I wanted to buy all the Data Entries but funds were limited. I did, however, make one great find - Enterprise Incidents 2. I'm thoroughly enjoying it, Sheila, you Spockaholic sleeze-bucket you! Are there any more available? *[Sheila - EI 1; 2 & 8 were my stories. We don't have any copies, but Bill Hupe is keeping them in print.]*

To K'tan Sutai Kuragan - How much is it worth to keep your earth name to myself, and who told me it? He said you love a challenge. His uniform and that of his "mate" are the best I have seen, but then I don't

usually hang around with Klingons.

We left early (family to feed) just as the local chippie opened so nobody starved after all, but we missed the Quiz.

I'm looking forward to UFP '94 and Archon and I've just received the details for Starship Voyages 95. Venice and the Greek Islands sounds wonderful. With John de Lancie (yummy yummy) and Jonathan del Arco on board, sounds like heaven. If Gates McFadden is on board I won't have to twist the arm of Big Chief Tele Zapper. 

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NANA VISITOR

compiled by William Marsh

Nana Tucker was raised in New York by her parents Robert and Nanette, and was influenced from an early age towards the arts of music and dance. This was because of her parents, as her father was a famous choreographer and her mother was a ballet teacher.

Nana took up dance at the age of seven and at the age of 16 she decided to take on her grandfather's name as she never did like 'Tucker', and became the more elegant Nana Visitor.

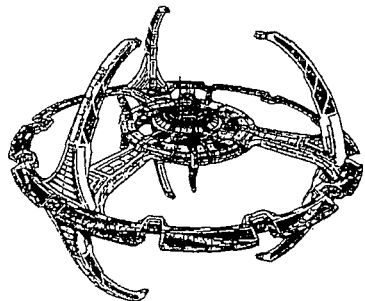
After graduating from Manhattan's exclusive Nightingale Bamford School she soon got a part starring alongside Angela Lansbury in the touring production of Gypsy, and following this, Nana landed a starring role in the LA production of the musical 42nd Street. Her other stage roles include My One and Only, The Ladies' Room at the Tiffany Theatre in LA, and this soon led on to parts in several ABC soap operas, including Ryan's Hope and One Life to Live.

Visitor made her first film debut with Ava Gardner in The Sentinal.

The following year she was on her way to Hollywood with \$500 and a broken-down

Honda and after arriving she soon got guest roles in LA Law, Empty Nest, Matlock, Murder She Wrote, Baby Talk, Thirty Something, Jake and the Fatman and In the Heat of the Night, amongst others. Almost immediately after this Visitor got the role of Bryn Newhouse in the NBC sitcom Working Girl, but this was short-lived and barely lasted its first season. Nana was intending to move back to New York after this setback, until she was invited for an audition for DS9. Instantly, after reading the part of Kira, she wanted the part and said, "She's a strong woman... not in connection with a man... She's her own entity."

Visitor soon won the part of Kira and now, after her initial year, lives happily with husband and son Buster.



TREK SURFING

By Chris Boyce

Bet you think you've seen it all, hmmm? Been to the cons, seen the movies, watched the tele progs, read the books and mags, perused the zines, picked up the comics, sellotaped the posters to your wall, slapped on your latex Klingon forehead, drunk from the mugs, worn the t-shirts, moused the mouse-mat and eaten the pie, etc., etc., etc..

Well, chances are YOU'RE WRONG!

Because the chances are you do not have access to a modem linked computer so you're missing out, my dear. And what I'm hoping to do with the occasional article in these hallowed pages is whet your ould palate with the whiff and flavour of the on-line world of STAR TREK Fandom.

I cannot believe that there's anyone who does not know what a modem is but there's always the chance... A modem is a little gizmo that lives between the computer and your telephone. It allows the computer to connect down the phone line to other computers so that info can be passed between them. Okay?

Good.

So what does this have to do with Trekking, huh? Well, if you're a fan and your once a week blether in the pub or cafe or the hairdresser's with the small group of fans known personally to you is all that keeps you going between issues of the IDIC newsletter, you should be on-line, pal.

There's a whole world of fans arguing the bit out day after day and I don't mean a few dozen fans either. I mean many thousands - probably tens of thousands, that surf about the globe dropping in here and there to get involved in debate and banter and get frenzied about Gates McFadden's legs or Wil Wheaton's very existence. They make friends and hang out and they've never so

much as laid eyes on each other, well very rarely. You see this is usually done from the cramped comfort of the bedroom with the Atari or Amiga or whatever tucked into the slanting roof corner. They meet all these people without crossing the doorstep.

This is important, really important. There are those dum-dums that wring their lilly white hands in horror at the thought of all these spotty little nerdoids growing progressively asocial, glaring day in and out at the wee screen that has them gripped in a death-lock round the throat.

Naa. Forget it. The problem is just they're really not interested in Take That or even U2; as for Glasgow Rangers or Arsenal, well... who are they anyway? The problem is these kids just have no one to talk to about what interests them, usually two things - computer stuff and STAR TREK. Set them up with a modem and a telephone timer (those wee 4 in the morning calls to Kyoto can take ALL the charm out of dad's phone bill!) and they get very socialised.

They also pick up a lesson very quickly that fans who write in to the IDIC newsletter learn as well; the people you're corresponding with are without race, social position, and sometimes even gender. Whenever I'm asked on-line whether I'm male or female I always reply 'yes'. All that in-you-face garbage can be tossed. You assess people by the quality of their discussion, their opinions, their humour and their smarts (or lack of same).

So what is there in cyberspace, the electronic frontier?

Principally there are three distinguishable areas, the bulletin-boards, big commercial services and the Internet, but there is no hard line between these groups. Some bulletin boards offer feeds into the 'Net. The commercial services usually do this too

and it is often possible to send messages from your site on the Internet to others on a BBs or a commercial service.

Bulletin boards. There are thousands of BBs around the world. I doubt if there's more than a handful of small nations without at least one (and their colleges usually have a long distance link with an Internet site). BBs are often run on a theme and frequently STAR TREK features prominently. Once on a board you can enter the messaging area (there are very very few which have no Trek sections) and copy interesting messages down into your own machine for replying to later. Often there are graphic images, games and lengthy articles you can similarly 'download' <jargon alert!> There are even a few boards with Trek front end systems that mimic being aboard the Enterprise (to a limited extent of course).

Commercial systems. These are companies which offer extended on-line services like mega-bulletin boards and are based mainly in the USA. In Britain we have two commercial services which I shall leave open for any others to discuss who may wish to do so, BT's Telecomm Gold and Prestel. Telecom Gold uses a proprietary communications set-up which effectively isolates it from the rest of the communications world. Prestel, which does have its own slice of Trek fandom, I have never used as its speeds are so unbelievably slow. To transfer a small photograph using it would take something like an hour. Again there are no feeds out to other systems. Booo.

The other commercial service in the UK is Cix (pronounced 'kicks') which operates from the London area and is very popular in that city. It is possible to access Cix at reasonable cost using either BT's cheap weekend option, £1 per half hour, phoning long distance between midnight Friday and midnight Sunday or using a special PSS link <Jargon alert!>. Cix carries LOTS of Trek oriented traffic!

The American on-line services all offer some degree of connection to the outer world. Certainly within eighteen months they will all offer much higher connectivity

than was imagined even a year ago. The five main services are IBM & Sears' Prodigy with 2,000,000 users, H&R Block's Compuserve with 1,500,000 users, America Online (a public company) with 400,000 users, General Electric's GENie with 300,000 users and Delphi with around 100,000 users and now wholly owned by News Corporation; yep, it's Rupert Murdoch again, folks!

Of these only CompuServe offers a UK service at present although this is likely to change. It is also probable that at least one comparable UK/European service will emerge with full extended services before the end of '96.

All of these services carry masses of Trek oriented material but nothing comes even close to the Internet...

The Internet. Nobody knows how big the Internet is because it's not really owned by anyone but there's an estimated fifteen million users; yes, that's a 15 with six 0s! It is usually accessed by people with accounts on company or college computers linked to the 'Net. However as the demand is growing, public access companies are springing up. Demon Internet opened a connection point in Edinburgh last year to supplement its two English nodes <jargon alert!>. Whereas the previous services mentioned above are fairly easy to move around (particularly CompuServe which supplies free software just for this purpose), the Internet can be the Proverbial Bitch!

The learning curve is Himalayan but the view from the top is worth it. There is more Trek related material in here than anyone could possibly rope together - although I shall be trying just this for your benefit (batting eyelashes - am I not just the sweetest little thing?).

So, the next article will take a look at Bulletin Boards principally in the UK but with a few neat ones in the USA to spice it out. Any correspondence on these will be gratefully received.

Until then live long, prosper and Hail the Empire!

Footnote: the online world is full of degrees)
 little characters called emoticons, or Smileys,
 used to transfer feelings, examples below;

@><| (Smiley's feeling like a Klingon)

:-) (Smiley's happy - turn him through 90 Chris Boyce 100140.2714@Compuserve.Com

☆☆☆☆

LORE. WHY?

by David J Raper

The android Lore was built by Dr Noonian Soong after uncounted failures of his positronic brain, which so consistently failed to live up to their creator's promises that he was cruelly nicknamed 'Often Wrong' Soong by his colleagues and driven to continue his work in secret until he succeeded. The android Lore *was* a success in that he was a fully functioning, self-aware artificial life-form but he was still a prototype, an experiment. He was a success in that he proved the viability of Soong's concept of a positronic brain but he was also a failure. Why?

In the episode Brothers, Dr Soong is confronted by Data and Lore and tells Data emphatically that, "The last thing you should think of yourself, Data, is less perfect".

He then proceeds to tell his 'sons' that the only difference between them lies in their programming and he stresses that this is the *only* difference. It is because of this difference that Lore was the irrational and emotional creature that the colonists came to fear, whilst Data is the rational and emotionless creature that had come to be accepted by the crew of the Enterprise, Starfleet and the Federation.

Why did this difference make such a difference? Lore was an android and his behaviour was governed by his programming; his creator had given him emotional responses which then drove him to act as he did. When rejected by the colonists, he sought revenge and gain by his alliance with the Crystal Entity because he felt rejected by them. His actions in Datalore were driven by resentment of his more

successful brother. In Brothers, his actions were once more a result of the resentment he felt towards both his brother and his creator, yet also we saw Lore in clear anguish at the news that his creator was dying.

Finally, in Descent, we saw Lore take considerable risks for the express purpose of recruiting Data to his cause, despite the risks this entailed. Why? Data would have been a valuable asset but the risks that Lore took were out of all proportion to the rewards. There are two possible interpretations for his actions:

1) To satisfy the need for revenge against Data by using him as a means to destroy the Federation and by the act of controlling him.

2) Because Lore wanted Data by his side, both as an ally and a brother.

Lore may have been prepared to destroy Data rather than let him go, but this does not detract from the lengths that he went to and the risks that he took to get Data in the first place. Had he simply sought his brother's destruction, with the resources at his disposal, he could have done so very easily and at no risk to himself.


All this because of that minor difference in programming. Because his creator sought to give him emotions. Had it been possible to reprogram Lore, would he become another Data, an emotionless being, rational and trustworthy? We do not know. The possibility does exist but would it have been Lore? Such a procedure would amount to tampering within his most basic programs,

effectively destroying the person that he was. Had he been confronted with the choice, I doubt if he would have taken that option.

I firmly believe that Lore's behaviour was a result of his creator's error; in a Court of Law, his actions would be defended on the grounds that in the legal sense he was not 'responsible', but was, to all intents, a psychotic personality, unable to control himself. That Dr Soong fully intended to correct Lore's instability was revealed in Brothers, but due to circumstances beyond his control he was unable to do so, a fact which he bitterly regretted. Lore was his

'first born son' and Soong's guilt at his own failure as Lore's parent clearly weighed heavily upon him as Data sought to console him in his last moments.

In conclusion, I can feel sorry for Lore, but he had to be stopped one way or another. It is regrettable that no attempt was made to tackle the underlying cause of his behaviour, but under the circumstances Data had little choice in the matter and it should not be forgotten that, as an android, with suitable repairs he might yet return, though not necessarily as the Lore who caused so much pain and destruction.



Infinite Diversity - A Personal View

or

"Dammit Jim, I'm a Star Trek Fan, not a star trek fan!"

by John Stubbley

Here's a poser for you all. Imagine you were asked this question. How would you reply, and why?

"Which is your most favourite Star Trek genre?

- 1 Classic
- 2 Movie
- 3 Next Generation
- 4 Deep Space 9?"

Over the past year in IDIC I have read several interesting opinions:

"Don't you think the concept of the Trill is not as Gene would have liked? After all, they rob a person of their free will."

"Don't you think TNG is too militaristic for REAL Star Trek, as the movies were?"

"Anything not written and/or produced by Gene or the Original Trek crew is not REAL ST"

"The 'professional' novels are not REAL Star Trek since they are not written by fans".

Of course these statements do boil down a page's worth of considered argument into one sentence, but these are arguments I have seen used, and cringed at.

I even read the article in n/1 31 which

seemed to me to criticise the latest Star Trek conventions because "all the new fans want to do is watch videos". I was slightly offended by this (only having joined fandom a mere 2 year ago) since it implied that newer fans are not 'as good' as some of the more established fans.

Now I know I may be treading on some people's feet here (or possibly misinterpreting some of you). It is not my intention to do so. You are entitled to your own opinions... this is IDIC.

Yes, this is IDIC. Infinite diversity..... The Vulcans didn't invent the concept. Neither did Gene or Leonard:

"Different strokes for different folks"

"It takes all kinds to make the world go 'round".

Similar ideas? I interpret IDIC as essentially a plea for Tolerance and Understanding. Allow someone their views. Argue constructively if you disagree. Do not dismiss someone's views as nonsensical or not correct.

So going back to the first question. Which genre did you pick? I'd either pick all

of them, or none. They are all my most favourite in their own way. I am not a TNG fan, a Classic Trek fan, a Kirk fan or a Spock fan.

When is a Star Trek Fan not a star trek fan? What is REAL Star Trek? What has been lost since those heady days in the 60s and 70s? What did I miss, by being born after 1973? Why are today's fans any worse than those back then?

I know lots of people. Those who hate ST. Those who know it's that funny Sci-Fi show on BBC2 with Dr Spock. Those who watch ST occasionally and think it's run of the mill. Those who can quote the odd line

from the films. There's even one who wears a home made Science Uniform shirt, is a Dataphile and thinks DS9 is good, but never misses BBC2 on Wednesdays. Which one of those is a Star Trek fan? Am I one?

I leave you with many questions. As you can probably tell I could probably answer them myself, but I hope you will. I don't want to influence you.

I will just hope that a 'TNG fan' will respect a 'Classic fan' and a 'Spock fan' will respect a 'Kirk fan'; and of course, vice-versa.

Live Long and Prosper, Everyone!!



AN OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN

by Anne-Marie Flowers

In N/L 32 one correspondent implied that Picard was not a strong character. I was shocked at this point of view. In my opinion Jean-Luc Picard is not only the strongest character in Star Trek but also one of the strongest characters in modern fiction.

The original Casting Call describes Picard as a romantic who believes strongly in concepts like honour and duty. In his 50s, he is very agile and in prime physical condition. From what I have read, Gene Roddenberry saw him as a mixture of Jacques Cousteau and Horatio Hornblower.

As a fictional product Picard may seem to have little in common with other heroes but, for me, that just adds to the attraction. He isn't tall, dark and handsome, he isn't young and he doesn't always get the girl. He is a somewhat stern, mature, dignified man. He *can* fight with a sword or with his bare fists on occasion but his weapons are more usually his intellect, his diplomatic skills and his patience. More than once he averts a war by the use of brinksmanship and strategy - most notably against the Romulans in The Enemy and The Defector. He has a formal, reserved style of command which nevertheless engenders loyalty and respect in his crew - witness Riker's desire to remain on the Enterprise despite being offered his own

command, and Worf's decision to ask him to act as his cha'Dich.

And we see that he returns the loyalty in full measure. He takes Data's side, not only in Measure of a Man but also in Pen Pals and The Offspring. He shows extraordinary lenience with Worf, particularly in Reunion and Rightful Heir, and he respects Worf's decision to withhold a life-giving transfusion from the Romulan in The Enemy even though he knows it may well result in a nasty incident with Tomalak. He is a Captain who has a lot of respect for rules and authority but he does not follow them rigidly or blindly. He has broken the Prime Directive 9 times since taking command of the Enterprise and in Conspiracy he risks his career to respond to a call for help from an old friend.

His integrity is recognised widely throughout the Federation - K'mpec appoints him to act as Arbiter of Succession and Sarek describes his career as satisfactory and chooses to mind meld with him, acknowledging his powers of logic and self-discipline.

Nor can anyone dispute his courage. We have seen him risking his life for his ship and his crew time and again. In Contagion he stays behind to destroy the Iconian base,

in *Who Watches the Watchers* he allows himself to be shot to prove he is not a god and in *Power Play* he risks being blown into space in the denouement with the alien entities. And what courage it must take to lend your mind to a demented man, not knowing if it will be returned to you intact? Much more significantly we see his moral courage. In *The Drumhead*, his defence of a young crewman results in his own career being placed under the 'witch-hunter's' microscope. In *I, Borg*, he overcomes his revulsion for Hugh's race and allows him to return to his ship unharmed, despite the temptation to seize the opportunity to annihilate them (and we know he pays for this in *Descent*). And not only does he survive days of torture at the hands of Gul Madred he even manages to win respect from his captor.

His 'Perfect Mate' Kamala describes him as a man of deep passion and conviction and this is well illustrated in his confrontation with Wesley Crusher in *The First Duty*. When Wes leaves the Ready Room after their discussion we see a shot of Picard's face and what is revealed there is pain. Up till now he has been very proud of Wesley and after *Final Mission* we are led to believe that their relationship has become less formal and more familial. The Captain has discovered that Wes has lied to protect himself during an official enquiry into the death of a fellow cadet. It is Picard's duty as a Starfleet Officer to persuade Wes to tell the truth even though he may well be expelled from the Academy as a result. It seems likely that Wes will resent the Captain and that their friendship will founder. Picard knows this and regrets it but still does *his* duty.

Kamala also says that he is controlled and disciplined. In *QPid* he is described by more than one person as being a very private man. It is precisely because of this reticence that both the crew and the audience are delighted when he reveals the lighter, more spontaneous and more vulnerable aspects of his character.

He likes to dress up and play detective on the holodeck. He likes to drink real wine and green whisky (strong stuff!) He likes to

play the flute, read Shakespeare, ride and fence. For a man who once stated that he didn't get along with children he has emerged as someone with excellent parent potential as seen in *Disaster*, *Suddenly Human* and, of course, *The Inner Light*. One of the most beautiful moments in the whole of TNG is in *Starship Mine* when the Captain finds himself alone on the Bridge and, with no-one looking on, stops for a minute to caress the *Enterprise*, 'the woman in his life'.


It is sometimes said that aspects of our own personalities are revealed by the friends we choose. What, then, are we to make of a man whose friends include a crotchety old man, a mysterious woman who has 'listened' for hundreds of years, a sexy but lawless archaeologist and a pesky superbeing? And although Picard is a private person, over the last six years it seems we have been given more information about his personal history than any other member of the team.

Brought up in a vineyard in France, he had a lonely childhood with no real friends and a bully for a brother. He ran away from home to join Starfleet, but failed to pass the entrance exam (and what did he do in the time before he could sit it again?) Once accepted into the Academy he did well, winning the Academy marathon in his freshman year but almost getting himself expelled too. On *Starbase Earhart*, just after graduation, he literally lost his heart in a bar-room brawl. On the *Stargazer* he happened to be in the right place at the right time and took command when her Captain was killed. Later he was to lose his best friend and then the ship he loved in rapid succession. Next he was court-martialled and we have a mysterious gap in his curriculum vitae for 9 years. He has had mixed success with women - from being ruled by hormones as a young Ensign to abandoning Jenice in Paris (and I must admit his moral courage was distinctly lacking then), to years of denial and suppression of his love for Beverly (recently revealed in *Attached*). Finally, in *Ressik*, with Eline, he has a family of his own, only to have it wrenched away with a suddenness which must surely have been as much of an ordeal as being violated by the Borg or being tortured by the Cardassians.

In The Chase, Professor Galen gives Picard a significant gift. The large porcelain figure of a man contains eight smaller pieces - 'the many voices inside the one'. We can deduce the nature of two of them at least - the astral explorer and the archaeologist.

☆☆☆☆

What are the other voices hidden inside Jean-Luc Picard? I don't know him well enough as yet to answer that question but I do know this: he is Starfleet's finest Captain, he is an Officer and a Gentleman and he is my hero!



CLASSIC TREK: THE AWARDS THAT NEVER WERE

by Jay Stevenson

So Star Trek didn't get a shelf full of awards? It should have done... best actor/actress (ie your favourites)/set/colour photography/sexiest ears/most realistic papier mache rock... the possibilities are endless. Unfortunately for all the excellent people involved it was science fiction, and therefore not Serious Television (like all those other programmes of the same era whose names spring instantly to mind). But there's nothing to stop any of us giving out a few trophies of our own. So here are some AWARDS THAT NEVER WERE (BUT SHOULD HAVE BEEN). Agree or disagree at your leisure.

Best episode: Difficult choice, and probably always stays subjective, but The Galileo Seven wins my vote. It has drama, tension, strong characterisation, excellent dialogue and the furry monsters are kept off camera as much as possible. A framed certificate saying "Well done!" for everyone involved... and one saying "You must be joking?", for Mr Nimoy, who according to Captains Logs considered this 'a failure' because he did not have Kirk to 'react against'.

Episode We Wouldn't Have Missed If It Hadn't Been Made (sounds better than Worst Episode): No, not Spock's Brain... which is pretty dire but has some redeeming features, mainly the way Leonard Nimoy seems to be sending it up (note the bit of business when he's recovering his speech and that schoolmasterly wagging finger at the end...) The rest of the cast try very very hard to look and sound serious, and actually succeed. Perhaps they should have a Special Commendation for Professionalism in the

Face of Extreme Opposition From the Script?

But For The World Is Hollow And I Have Touched the Sky really has no redeeming features at all. It's solid wood all the way through, with all chances for dramatic tension not so much ignored as murdered. McCoy doesn't die (we knew he wouldn't); Spock deciphers The Book (he's already admitted he recognises the script); Our Heroes adjust unfamiliar and alien controls in two seconds flat (well, they would, wouldn't they?); McCoy doesn't seem bothered about ditching the Great Love of his Life (Kirk's influence rubbing off on him?); and then credits roll... at last! Yes, this one gets the award of a cushion that makes a rude noise when you sit on it.

Insult to the Intelligence Award: The Enterprise Incident for expecting us to believe that Spock is a traitor and Kirk is going crazy, and for implying that the Enterprise crew is such a bad security risk it can't be told what's really going on.

Best Time Travel Story: Tomorrow Is Yesterday. It's fun and (if you're going to accept the premise of time travel) believably plotted and satisfactorily resolved. Much better than the over-praised City on the Edge of Forever.

Award for a Good Idea Wasted: The Savage Curtain (by Gene Roddenberry, no less!). As Jon Abbott comments, somewhere in this story there were "some intelligent ideas trying to get out". Unfortunately they didn't succeed and the result is "simply ludicrous". Agreed!

Surprise Ending Award: A tie between Charlie X and The Squire of Gothos. Charlie X deserves praise for not copping out and providing a happy ending. The Squire of Gothos, with William Campbell stealing scenes all over the place, does keep you guessing about his real motives and wondering exactly who or what he is. The explanation, when you look back at his behaviour, is totally believable.

Best Comedy Episode: It's got to be Tribbles... with all the cast having fun. The award is a life size solid silver tribble on a quadrottricale coloured base to every cast member... Klingons too!

Awful Lines Award: Well, everyone must have a personal favourite here, but a few that spring to mind include Kirk's "What have you done with Spock's brain?" (Spock's Brain); Spock's "It was an accelerating experience" (Wink of an Eye); McCoy's "I knew it was a mistake to connect his mouth" (Spock's Brain again); and "That's a bad cut, Jim, does it hurt?" (The Empath).

Excess Energy Award: Kirk for doing most of his own stunts... or at least it looked that way; and all the Bridge Crew for flinging themselves about during battles/space turbulence/time slip whiplash effects etc. Unscientific maybe, but dramatic.

Lost Script Opportunity: Court Martial for missing the chance of pitting Spock's logic against the legal skill of the prosecution and giving him a subjective and pretty tame analogy to make his point instead.

Exotic Score Award: Amok Time. Possible quiz question - how many times did they reuse bits of it in other episodes? How many times would they have used it if it had been written earlier?

Imaginative Set Award: Spectre of the Gun. An episode that's been rather unjustly maligned. The Melkotians' idea of a fancy death sentence is no sillier than some of Trek's other premises. And how do we know they didn't intend it as a kind of test anyway? Aliens are always doing that sort of thing in Trek. The blood red sky, and jaunty music,

the surreal sets, the sudden winds and the zombie-like Earps all give this one quite a bit of style.

Black Hat Villain Award: here aren't many contenders. Star Trek tradition teaches that very few are irredeemably bad, just misunderstood or ill or simply living by a different set of rules. This includes the Salt Vampire who killed to survive. I'm sure Henoah would have disposed of the entire Enterprise crew if it suited him, but since he didn't get the chance we'll have to give him the benefit of the doubt and give the award to the Jack the Ripper entity in Wolf in the Fold who seemed to be killing, not for profit or politics, but for fun. How Human!

Worst Wig Award: Sorry, Mr Chekov. Nothing personal. A framed photograph of The Monkees for you.

Most Sexist Remark Award: Spock (of all people) in Wolf in the Fold commenting that "women are more easily and more deeply terrified, generating more sheer horror than the male of the species". Runner up; Kirk implying that every single non-Vulcan woman in the entire known universe is illogical (Elaan of Troyius). Maybe he was joking?

Best Guest award: Too many excellent examples to choose from. As Award for Mismatched Guest would be an easier option. How about Joan Collins and her J Arthur Rank charm school accent in City on the Edge of Forever? If she was supposed to be British I missed any reference to it. Couldn't she have managed even a slight American drawl?

Special Award for Hammering Home a Valid Point with Idiotic Lack of Subtlety: The black and white make up in Let That Be Your Last Battlefield.

Most Unbelievable Furry Monster Award: Well, there weren't too many men dressed in shaggy romper suits, thank goodness, and all credit to Star Trek for that. The Mugato (A Private Little War) gets this prize: a bottle of carpet shampoo.

Non-Frightening Alien Monster

Award: The rubbery fried eggs making cute twittery noises in Operation Annihilate. And the Horta. All right, she wasn't supposed to be evil but we weren't supposed to know that to begin with. I thought she looked cute wobbling about like a knobby jelly.

Trek costumes were extraordinary. Often daft but never forgettable. Sometimes they caused belief to be not so much suspended as rudely shattered. Other times they had considerable kitsch charm. A cluster of awards here.

Good Story Spoiled by Ridiculous Costumes Award: A Taste of Armageddon. Jon Abbott put it succinctly; "A clever anti-war fable... marred by... costumes reminiscent of Flash Gordon". This was a strong and interesting "message" storyline and Kirk's solution was excellent. A different (more serious) visual treatment could have made it one of the best episodes in the series.

How Does It Stay Up Award: Obviously Carolyn Palomas in "Greek" gear (Who Mourns for Adonais).

Where Did You Get That Hat (and why did you bother?) **Award:** Spock's white flower pot in Assignment Earth.

Hat (and wearer) With the Most Sex Appeal Award: Spock in a trilby in A Piece of the Action. And if you think this is sexist the winner of the Sexiest Alien Entrance is Elaan (Elaan of Troyius). The camera panning up from her feet was one of the best moments in the episode (the only good moment in the episode?)

Other Nice Moments Award: Spock flipping an irreverent Nazi salute in Piece of the Action. Kirk checking his command chair for troublesome Tribbles. Spock directing his own brain replacement in Spock's Brain (because of the way Leonard played it, otherwise it'd go in the next category); Kirk making a command decision not to appear at 5 o'clock in the OK Corral in Spectre of the Gun.

Most Unbelievable Moments Award: How about the bit in Miri when all the highly

trained Enterprise crew members rush out and leave their communicators conveniently laid out ready to be stolen (and a Magic Circle Special Recommendation for the disappearing Security Men...?) Spock's ultra-fast ship repairs in Wink of an Eye deserve an honorary mention too.

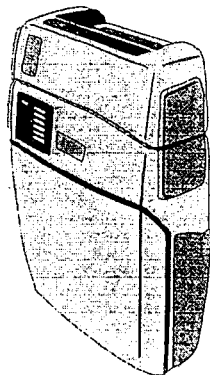
The Don't Call Us We'll Call You Award: Spock as singer in Plato's Stepchildren.

Mawkish Moments Award: McCoy coochy-cooing over that yukky baby (I'm sure you're gorgeous now, whoever you are) in Friday's Child. The starry-eyed Bridge crew in Bread and Circuses finally realising the difference between S-U-N and S-Q-N.

Almost Slash Fiction Storyline Award: Plato's Stepchildren with its implied kinky sex show, S&M and all. Perhaps younger viewers might really believe that all the decadent Platonians wanted to watch was an (inter-racial) kiss, but what did they think Kirk and Spock were going to be forced to do with the red hot coals and pokers, eh? Have a barbecue?

Special Award for the Character Who's Provided You with the Most Pleasure Over the Years:.....

Fill in your own nomination and think up an appropriate prize. Happy Imagining!



WILLIAM SHATNER'S CREDITS

by Chris C Bailey

Compiling a detailed biographical listing of film/tv programmes of your favourite actor (or actress) can be very tedious, frustrating even, particularly as a lot of letter writing and dry research in libraries is involved. However, the spectacular results, when realised, can be most gratifying, as you will see below. To avoid unnecessary repetition, I have excluded all details concerning Bill Shatner's STAR TREK output, which on it's own would take up several pages, and have instead concentrated on his work outside of the Trek Genre. I've also included copyright dates per each programme, or tv series, where available, and these are listed numerically. All programmes currently in my collection have been listed in Italics.

Of course, the list is far from complete, and I would warmly welcome any information from you that can help, ie, copies of programmes on Standard Play (VHS) video tape, Copyright dates, programme titles, reviews on any of the titles listed, or any not on the list, plus any error corrections on the list that you'd like to notify me of. Whatever information concerning Bill Shatner's professional acting career that you may have, I'd very much like to hear from you. (My special thanks to Janet Quarton, for her invaluable and timely help, without which the list below wouldn't be quite so detailed and interesting to us dedicated Bill Shatner Fans).

If you want to contact me via letter, please write to: Chris C Bailey, "Actor Profiles", 52 Druids Walk, Didcot, Oxfordshire, OX11 7PF.

DEAD OF NIGHT (1946)
THE BROTHERS KARAMAZOV (Shatner's Debut Film) (1957)
THE ZERO HOUR (1957)
FOR THE PEOPLE (US tv series) (1960)
THE INTRUDER (1961)
JUDGMENT AT NUREMBERG (1961)

EXPLOSIVE GENERATION (1961)
SHAME (1962)
NIGHTMARE AT 20,000 FEET (Twilight Zone) (1963)
THE OUTRAGE (1964)
INCUBUS (1966)
WHITE COMMANDER (1967)
PERILOUS VOYAGE (1968)
SOLE SURVIVOR (1969)
THE PEOPLE (1972)
YOU DON'T HAVE TO KILL TO GET RICH, BUT IT HELPS (Hawaii Five O) (1972)
FADE INTO MURDER (Columbo) (1972)
GO ASK ALICE (1973)
HORROR AT 37,000 FEET (1973)
THE HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES (1973)
BIG BAD MAMA 1 (1974)
THE BARBARY COAST (1974)
IMPULSE (1975)
THE DEVIL'S RAIN (1975)
A WHALE OF A TALE (1977)
KINGDOM OF THE SPIDERS (1977)
THE LAND OF NO RETURN (1978)
THE CRASH OF FLIGHT 401 (1978)
RIEL (1978)
THE THIRD WALKER (1978)
DISASTER ON THE COASTLINER (1979)
THE KIDNAPPING OF THE PRESIDENT (1979)
THE BABYSITTER (1980)
VISITING HOURS (1980)
MADAME'S PLACE (1982)
AIRPLANE 2: THE SEQUEL (1982)
POLICE SQUAD (Part 4) (1982)
T J HOOKER (1982-1987)
SECRETS OF A MARRIED MAN (1984)
NORTH BEACH AND RAWHIDE (1985)
THE PLAYGROUND (Ray Bradbury Theatre) (1985)
BROKEN ANGELS (1988)
RESCUE 911 (Host) (1989)
THIS IS YOUR LIFE (1989)
THE BEST OF SATURDAY NIGHT CLIVE (1991)
NATIONAL LAMPOONS LOADED
WEAPON 1 (1993)
THE DEFENDERS

| | |
|---|--|
| HANDS (The Outer Limits) | THE MAGIC PLANET (Host) |
| WARM HEART (The Outer Limits) | PROJECT STRIGAS AFFAIR (The Man From U.N.C.L.E.) |
| ALEXANDER, THE GREAT | MARCUS WELBY, M.D. |
| NICK OF TIME (Twilight Zone) | MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE |
| 77 SUNSET STRIP | MORK AND MINDY |
| GLASS EYE (Alfred Hitchcock Presents) | NAKED CITY |
| MOTHER MAY I GO OUT TO SWIM (Alfred Hitchcock Presents) | NAME OF THE GAME |
| THE AMAZING WORLD OF KRESKIN | NIGHT OF THE 100 STARS II |
| BARNABY JONES | THE NURSES |
| THE BASTARD | FOR WIVES (Omnibus) |
| BENJAMIN FRANKLIN: THE STATESMAN | OEPIPUS REX (Omnibus) |
| BIG VALLEY | OWEN MARSHALL, COUNSELOR AT LAW |
| BLOODSPORT | PERRY MASON |
| BOB HOPE PRESENTS THE CHRYSLER THEATRE | PIONEER WOMAN |
| DR KILDARE | PRAY FOR THE WILDCATS |
| DR SIMON LOCKE | ROUTE 66 |
| SCARLET PIMPERNEL (Family Classics) | THE SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN |
| FRIDAYS | THE SKIRTS OF HAPPY CHANCE |
| THE FUGITIVE | DEFENDER (Studio One) |
| SUMMER LONG (Goodyear Playhouse) | THE DEAF HEART (Studio One) |
| ANDERSONVILLE TRIAL (Hollywood Television Theatre) | NO DEADLY MEDICINE (Studio One) |
| HEROES AND SIDEKICKS (Indiana Jones And The Temple Of Doom, Host) | THE TENTH LEVEL |
| INCIDENT ON A DARK STREET | TESTIMONY OF TWO MEN |
| INDICT AND CONVICT | THIS WAS AMERICA (Host) |
| INNER SPACE (TV Series) | TOP FLIGHT (Host) |
| IRONSIDE | TWELVE O'CLOCK HIGH |
| THE JOHN WAYNE SPECIAL: A SALUTE TO AMERICA | WITH A STRANGER (US Steel Hour) |
| KUNG FU | A MAN IN HIDING (US Steel Hour) |
| LITTLE WOMEN | OLD MARSHALLS NEVER DIE (US Steel Hour) |
| THE LOVE BOAT FALL PREVIEW PARTY | VANISHED |
| | THE VIRGINIAN |
| | VOICE OF THE PLANET (Host) |

☆☆☆☆

A STAR TREK DISCOGRAPHY

Compiled by Peter Sparks-Updated by Peter Carmody

The following items of music and dialogue are currently available:

From the Original Series-

STAR TREK -Television Soundtrack (Various Artists)
 PRT(1987) Album no. PYL 6041. Cassette no. PYL 6041.
 CD. no.GNPD 8006. Album no.GNP 8006. Cass. no. GNP.58006
 (From the pilots "The Cage" and "where No Man Has Gone Before")

Star Trek-Vol Two "The Doomsday MACHine / Amok Time"
 Cassette no.GNP58025. CD no.GNPD 8025

Star Trek -Vol Three "Shore Leave /Naked Time
Cassette no. GNP.58030. CD no. GNPD 8030

Star Trek -Sound Effects (Various Artists) (Jan 1989 rel)
CD: GNPD 8010, Album GNPS 8010, Cassette GNP 58010

A Series of four recordings are available on the Silva Screen label as Star Trek Vols.1-4-The T.V. Series.Original Soundtrack(Royal Philharmonic Orchestra). Vols 1&2 were released on CD in 1986 and the other formats for these as well as Vols 3&4 in all formats were released in 1989.The manufacturers numbers are:

VOL. 1. CD:LXCD 703. ALBUM: LXCR 703. CASS: LXDC 703

VOL. 2. CD:LXCD 704. ALBUM: LXCR 704. CASS: LXDC 704

VOL. 3. CD:VCD 47235.ALBUM: 704.270. CASS:C704.270

Nb CD Re-released in Feb 1989 as VSD 47235.

VOL. 4. CD:VCD47240 .ALBUM: 704.300. CASS: C704.300

These are described as "New Digital recordings of the music from the original TV series".

All the film soundtracks are available-

Star Trek The Motion Picture - (Jerry Goldsmith) (Various Artists)
CBS. (1980) Album: CBS 70174. Cass. 40 70174
PRT. (1985) Album: NCP 706. Cass. ZCN 706
Silva Screen(1989);CD: CK 36334. Album: PS 36334. Cass: PST36334

Star Trek II-The Wrath Of Khan - (James Horner) (Various Artists)
WEA :K 50905-Deleted 1985 still available
Disneyland-Vista(1984)Album:D462. Cass: D462 DC
Colosseum(1990) CD:VSD 47240. Cass: D CTV 704300
Crescendo CD:GNPD8025. Cass: GNPS8025

Star Trek III: The Search For Spock. (James Horner) (Various Artists)
Capitol (1984) Album: TREK 1. cass:TCTREK1 (deleted 1989)
also Album: E 2401771 also deleted 1989
Silva Screen album: SKBK 12360
Disney 12"single: RESLD 2
Crescendo CD: GNPD 8022. Cass: GNPS 8022

Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home. (Leonard Rosenman) (various Artists)
MCA.(1987) Album: IMCA 6195. Cass:IMCAC 6195. CDMCAD 6195

Star Trek V: The Final Frontier (Various Artists)
Epic /CBS.(1989) CD:465925-2. Album: 465925-1. Cass: 465925-4

Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country (Cliff Eidelman) (various Artists)
MCA(1991) Album: IMCA 10512. Cass:IMAC 10512. CDMCAD 10512

Star Trek The Next Generation Albums:

Vol.1. Encounter at Farpoint -Dennis McCarthy (various artists)
Crescendo. CD:GNPD 8012. Cass: GNPS 58012
Vol.2. Best of Both Worlds Pts 1 & II-Ron Jones (various Artists)
Crescendo. CD:GNPD 8026. Cass: GNPS 58026
VOL.3. Yesterday's Enterprise/Unification I & II/Hollow Pursuits

Dennis McCarthy - (Various Artists)
Crescendo. CD:GNPD 8031. Cass: GNPS 58031

NOTE: A set of Three CD's was released by Crescendo containing the following, under a set number of GNPD:ZYX-7704-2.

- 1- original pilot
- 2-Doomsday Machine
- 3-Encounter at Farpoint

There were in fact two issues of this made, both with the same number as far as I know. One was an American printing which had full details within about the episode. The other was German and had no details, merely a fly sheet with the show title on the cover.

Star Trek Deep Space Nine

Star Trek DS9-Pilot episode -"The Emissary"-Dennis McCarthy (various Artists)
Crescendo. CD:GNPD 8034. Cass:GNPS 58034

OTHER TITLES

STAR TREK-THE ASTRAL SYMPHONY-Commemorating Star Trek's 25th Anniversary
milan:CD 262 832 . cass.

Time Warp-Erich Kunzul-Music from Star Trek Film and TV.

TELARC. CD: 80106. Cass: 580106

Star Tracks-1-Erich Kunzul-As above

TELARC. CD: 80094. Cass: 580094

Star Tracks-2-Erich Kunzul-as above

TELARC. CD: 80146. Cass: 580146

Nichelle Nichols-"Out of this World"

Crescendo. CD:GNPD 2209. Cass: GNPS 52209

Leonard Nimoy-"Mr Spock's Music from Outer Space"

Raven. RVLP 1002

Dot. DLP 3794

"New World of Leonard Nimoy"

Dot. DLP 25966

"Touch of Leonard Nimoy"

Dot. DLP 25910

"Two Sides of Leonard Nimoy"

Dot. DLP 25835

"Way I Feel"

Dot. DLP 25883

"Inner Mind"

Paramount. 1030

"Highly Illogical"

Revola. CREVO17CD

William Shatner-"The Transformed Man"

Detca. DL75043

Revola. CREV004

Gene Roddenberry-"The Star Trek Theme "

CBS. CBS 4692-7" single

AUDIO CASSETTES OF BOOKS

| TITLE | NO. | READER |
|-------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| The Kobyashu Maru | 70895-3 | James Doohan |
| Web Of The Romulans | 64719-9-995 | Leonard Nimoy & George Takei |
| STV The Final Frontier | 68507-4-795 | Leonard Nimoy & George Takei |
| Final Frontier | 67016-6-995 | Leonard Nimoy & James Doohan |
| STIV The Voyage Home | 64629-x-895 | Leonard Nimoy & George Takei |
| STVI The Undiscovered Country | 75873-x-1100 | James Doohan |
| Faces Of Fear | 77802-1- | Bibi Besch |
| Shadows On The Sun | 86974-4 | James Doohan |
| The First Adventure | 62951-4-995 | Leonard Nimoy & George Takei |
| Time For Yesterday | 67017-4-995 | Leonard Nimoy & James Doohan |
| Strangers From The Sky | 64718-0 | Leonard Nimoy & George Takei |
| The Entropy Effect | 66864-1 | Leonard Nimoy & George Takei |
| Best Destiny | 79103-6 | James Doohan |
| Windows On A Lost World | 86962-0 | Walter Koenig |
| Spock's World | 67917-1 | Leonard Nimoy & George Takei |
| Probe | | Leonard Nimoy |

STAR TREK THE NEXT GENERATION TITLES

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| Relics | 86528-5 | LeVar Burton & James Doohan |
| Contamination | 74045-8 | Michael Dorn |
| Re-Union | 85318-x | Gates McFadden |
| Power Klingon | 853198 | Michael Dorn |
| (learn to talk Klingon) | | |

I would like to thank HMV Manchester for their invaluable help in compiling this more up to date list. NOTE: getting information was like pulling hen's teeth. This list is as accurate as I was able to obtain and I wish to apologise for any omissions. This will be corrected in any later updates.

☆☆☆☆

STARDATES

by Chris C Bailey

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|------------------------|
| First TNG Season: | 41294.5 | HAVEN |
| StarDate - Episode Title | 41997.7 | THE BIG GOODBYE |
| | 41242.4 | DATALORE |
| 41153.7 ENCOUNTER AT FARPOINT | 41636.9 | ANGEL ONE |
| 41209.2 THE NAKED NOW | 41365.9 | 11001001 |
| 41235.25 CODE OF HONOUR | 41309.5 | TOO SHORT A SEASON |
| 41386.4 THE LAST OUTPOST | 41509.1 | WHEN THE BOUGH BREAKS |
| 41263.1 WHERE NO ONE HAS GONE BEFORE | 41463.9 | HOME SOIL |
| 41249.3 LONELY AMONG US | 41416.2 | COMING OF AGE |
| 41255.6 JUSTICE | 41503.7 | HEART OF GLORY |
| 41723.9 THE BATTLE | 41798.2 | THE ARSENAL OF FREEDOM |
| 41590.5 HIDE AND Q | Unknown | SYMBIOSIS |
| | 41601.3 | SKIN OF EVIL |

41697.9 WE'LL ALWAYS HAVE PARIS
 41775.5 CONSPIRACY
 41986.0 THE NEUTRAL ZONE

Second TNG Season:
 StarDate - Episode Title

42073.1 THE CHILD
 42193.6 WHERE SILENCE HAS LEASE
 42286.3 ELEMENTARY, DEAR DATA
 42402.7 THE OUTRAGEOUS OKONA
 42477.2 LOUD AS A WHISPER
 42437.5 THE SCHIZOID MAN
 42494.8 UNNATURAL SELECTION
 42506.5 A MATTER OF HONOUR
 42523.7 THE MEASURE OF A MAN
 42568.8 THE DAUPHIN
 42609.1 CONTAGION
 42625.4 THE ROYALE
 42679.2 TIME SQUARED
 42686.4 THE ICARUS FACTOR
 42695.3 PEN PALS
 42761.3 Q WHO?
 42779.1 SAMARITAN SNARE
 42823.2 UP THE LONG LADDER
 42859.2 MANHUNT
 42901.3 THE EMISSARY
 42923.4 PEAK PERFORMANCE
 42976.1 SHADES OF GREY

Third TNG Season:
 StarDate - Episode Title

43125.8 EVOLUTION
 43133.3 THE ENSIGNS OF COMMAND
 43152.4 THE SURVIVORS
 43173.5 WHO WATCHES THE
 WATCHERS?
 43198.7 THE BONDING
 43205.6 BOOBY TRAP
 43349.2 THE ENEMY
 43385.6 THE PRICE
 43421.9 THE VENGEANCE FACTOR
 43462.5 THE DEFECTOR
 43489.2 THE HUNTED
 43510.7 THE HIGH GROUND
 43539.1 DEJA Q
 43610.4 A MATTER OF PERSPECTIVE
 43625.2 YESTERDAY'S ENTERPRISE
 43657.0 THE OFFSPRING
 43685.2 SINS OF THE FATHER
 43714.1 ALLEGIANCE
 43745.2 CAPTAIN'S HOLIDAY
 43779.3 TIN MAN

43807.4 HOLLOW PURSUITS
 43872.2 THE MOST TOYS
 43917.4 SAREK
 43930.7 MENAGE A TROIS
 43957.2 TRANSFIGURATIONS
 43989.1 THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS
 Part 1

Fourth TNG Season:
 StarDate - Episode Title

44001.4 THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS
 Part 2
 44012.3 FAMILY
 44085.7 BROTHERS
 44143.7 SUDDENLY HUMAN
 44161.2 REMEMBER ME
 44215.2 LEGACY
 44246.3 REUNION
 44286.5 FUTURE IMPERFECT
 44307.3 FINAL MISSION
 44356.9 THE LOSS
 44390.1 DATA'S DAY
 44429.6 THE WOUNDED
 44474.5 DEVIL'S DUE
 44502.7 CLUES
 Unknown FIRST CONTACT
 44614.6 GALAXY'S CHILD
 44631.2 NIGHT TERRORS
 44664.5 IDENTITY CRISIS
 44704.2 THE Nth DEGREE
 44741.9 Q-PID
 44769.2 THE DRUMHEAD
 44805.3 HALF A LIFE
 44821.3 THE HOST
 44885.5 THE MIND'S EYE
 44932.3 IN THEORY
 44995.3 REDEMPTION Part 1

Fifth TNG Season:
 StarDate - Episode Title

45020.4 REDEMPTION Part 2
 45047.2 DARMOK
 45076.3 ENSIGN RO
 45122.3 SILICON AVATAR
 45156.1 DISASTER
 45208.2 THE GAME
 45233.1 UNIFICATION Part 1
 45245.8 UNIFICATION Part 2
 45349.1 A MATTER OF TIME
 45376.3 NEW GROUND
 45397.3 HERO WORSHIP
 45429.3 VIOLATIONS

45470.1 THE MASTERPIECE SOCIETY
 45494.2 CONUNDRUM
 45571.2 POWER PLAY
 45587.3 ETHICS
 45614.6 THE OUTCAST
 45652.1 CAUSE AND EFFECT
 45703.9 THE FIRST DUTY
 45733.6 COST OF LIVING
 45761.3 THE PERFECT MATE
 45852.1 IMAGINARY FRIEND
 45854.2 I, BORG
 45892.4 THE NEXT PHASE
 45944.1 THE INNER LIGHT
 45959.1 TIME'S ARROW Part 1

Sixth TNG Season:
 StarDate - Episode Title

46001.3 TIME'S ARROW Part 2
 46041.1 REALM OF FEAR
 46071.6 MAN OF THE PEOPLE
 46125.3 RELICS
 46154.2 SCHISMS
 46192.3 TRUE Q
 46235.7 RASCALS
 46271.5 A FISTFUL OF DATAS
 46307.2 THE QUALITY OF LIFE
 46360.8 CHAIN OF COMMAND Part 1
 46360.8 CHAIN OF COMMAND Part 2
 46424.1 SHIP IN A BOTTLE
 46461.3 AQUIEL

46519.1 FACE OF THE ENEMY
 46548.7 TAPESTRY
 46548.4 BIRTHRIGHT Part 1
 46579.2 BIRTHRIGHT Part 2
 46682.4 STARSHIP MINE
 46693.1 LESSONS
 46731.5 THE CHASE
 46778.1 FRAME OF MIND
 46830.1 SUSPICIONS
 46852.2 RIGHTFUL HEIR
 46915.2 SECOND CHANCES
 46944.2 TIMESCAPE
 46982.1 DESCENT Part 1

Seventh TNG Season:
 StarDate - Episode Title

47025.4 DESCENT Part 2
 Unknown LIAISONS
 Unknown INTERFACE
 Unknown GAMBIT Part 1
 Unknown GAMBIT Part 2
 Unknown PHANTASMS
 Unknown DARK PAGE
 Unknown ATTACHED
 Unknown FORCE OF NATURE
 Unknown INHERITANCE
 Unknown PARALLELS
 Unknown THE PEGASUS
 Unknown HOMEWARD
 Unknown SUB ROSA

SUBMITTING ON COMPUTER DISC

by Janet Quarton

If you have access to a computer and a wordprocessor we would really appreciate it if you could submit items for the newsletter and zines on disc. It greatly reduces our workload and also reduces the risk of errors creeping in in the copy typing.

In general, it doesn't matter what computer or wordprocessor you are using, what we need from you is a simple ASCII text file - the simpler the better. There can't be many wordprocessors around which don't allow you to save a file in this format. It is the only way to transfer text between different wordprocessors - never mind

different computers.

I have an Acorn A5000 which means I can read any disc from an Acorn computer. She can also read:

MS:DOS discs 5.25" max 720K or 3.5" discs up to 1.44Mb

Atari ST discs

Amstrad PCW discs 3" max 180K or 3.5" up to 720K.

Note - if you are using a PC we can read Word Perfect files, 4.2 & 5.1.

We also have a couple of members

who will transfer files from Amigas and Apple Macs to MS-DOS for us but we will need to receive newsletter submissions at least 2 weeks before the deadline.

Please write your name on the disk plus the type of computer and size of disc.

Newsletter - Send both the disc and a hardcopy to Janet. We will return all discs but would appreciate a return label and stamp. A hardcopy is necessary in case there is a problem with reading the disc. Make sure your name is in each text file on the disc.

Zines - Send a hardcopy to Sheila or Valerie and say whether you can provide a disc copy. When your story is accepted you will be asked to send the disc to Janet. We cannot

accept story submission on disc alone - it is too difficult to read them on the computer.

While our A5000 looks after all formatting, one problem with text files is that underlining, italics and bold are not transferred with the text. You can use these conventions:

*US - *UE Underline start/end

*IS - *IE Italic start/end

*BS - *BE Bold start/end

If you haven't submitted on disc before and want to try it - send a test file to Janet.

We can also convert various picture formats, ie: CGM, EPS, Amiga IFF, BPM, PCX, TIFF, GIF, Mac Paint plus many others.



SUBMITTING QUIZZES, CROSSWORDS ETC.

by Janet Quarton

We are always looking for crosswords, quizzes and puzzles for the newsletter. Unfortunately we don't have time to check them for accuracy. If you are good at trivia, enjoy doing quizzes and would like to check some for us - please contact Janet.

Here are some guides for submissions - all of which should be sent to Janet.

Crosswords

Please make sure your crossword is accurate and obeys the usual rules. You only need to draw a rough grid as the computer will do the one we will print. We need the clues (with number of letters) and the answers.

If you are submitting on computer, save the clues and solution as a text file. It would also help if you could save a copy of the completed crossword grid like this:

```
O#K#FALTORPAN
FREE#P#O#A#W#
```

i.e. Use '#' for the blanks. The computer then draws the crossword grid and fills the numbers in automatically.

Quizzes

We need the questions and answers. Type or write clearly - or, even better, submit on computer.

Wordsearches

Please limit the grid size to 20 x 20.

It is very difficult to copy a word grid accurately so, unless you are submitting it on computer, or say that it is important that we use your grid, we may just use your words but use a computer program to compile a new grid from them. We have a very useful program which will take a list and compile a grid of whatever size we tell it too. It also shows the solution and if you don't like the lay-out of the words you can re-compile it.

If you are submitting on computer please leave a space between each letter.

Puzzles with unique grids

Using black ink on plain white paper, please neatly draw two copies of the grid - one blank and one with the answers filled in. Janet will then scan these into the computer.



STAR TREK WORD SPIRAL

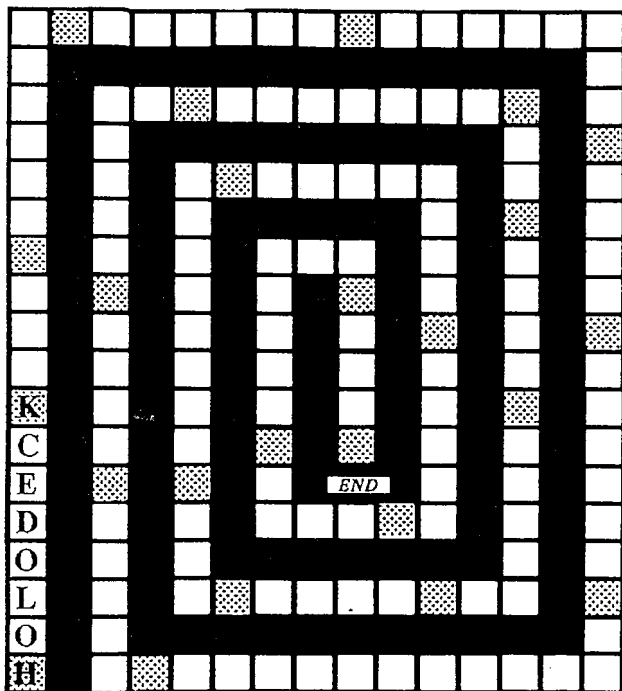
By Stephen Daniels

To play, simply solve the clues and insert the words into each consecutive set of boxes. The last letter of word one will be the same as the first letter of word two and so on. The first and last letters of all words share the shaded boxes. The first one has been done for you - Holodeck -

hence the second word starts with a K.

CLUES

1. We first met Riker's 'future' wife here (8)
2. The executioner (5)
3. Less than 186,000 mps (8)
4. Transporters do this to matter (8)
5. 11001001 (3,4,3)
6. Troi is one (6)
7. Sulu is one (8)
8. GNDN pipes - go _____ and do _____ (7,7)
9. The grandfather of El Baz, Hawking, and Goddard (7)
10. Molly's dad (1'5)
11. Where Bussard Ramscoops are located (8)
12. Gravity (and meat) on the Enterprise (9)
13. Riker can't fool Data at this kind of trick! (4)
14. Before Paramount, this company made 'Star Trek' (6)
15. All the cities on Argo (5,3)
16. Bev's nurse (6)
17. Fek'lhr and our Devil too! (5)
18. Operation _____ (10)
19. NASA's first space shuttle (10)
20. The Enterprise always seems to take this action! (7)
21. Ro (6)
22. Chekov is one (9)
23. Gives a wonderful rendition of "I'll Take You Home Again, Kathleen" (5)



Answers on page 85.



TARUKA STRIKES AGAIN!

Can you find the connection(s) between:

- Jane Wyatt, Grace Lee Whitney and Ricardo Montalban
- Diana Muldaur and LeVar Burton
- The Day The Earth Stood Still and ST:TMP
- The Royal Hunt of the Sun and The Undiscovered Country (and one between this and (3))
- Arena and Who Watches the Watchers
- Charles Cooper and Michael Dorn
- Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea; The Lost Bomb and Lost in Space; Cave of the Wizards (other than Irwin Allen)
- Robert Foxworth and Brent Spiner (be specific)
- Leonard Nimoy and Gates McFadden
- The Last Outpost and The Questor Tapes
- Gene Dynarski, Michael Paraki and Diana Muldaur
- Malachi Throne and Leonard Nimoy
- James Doohan, Majel Barrett and Michael Dorn
- Mark Lenard and Suzi Plakson
- Michael Dorn and Denise Crosby
- Outer Limits, The Zanti Misfits and TNG: Skin of Evil
- Patrick Stewart, Brent Spiner and William Shatner
- Judson Scott, Merritt Butrick and Paul Winfield
- Julie Newmar, Rosalind Chao and Marina Sirtis
- Brent Spiner and City on the Edge of Forever
- William Shatner, Richard Tatro and Hallie Todd (there are others)
- Skip Homier, Ian Wolfe and Michelle Forbes (among others)
- Leonard Nimoy and John de Lancie
- Mark Lenard and Marc Alaimo and David Warner
- Why is the episode Rascals the most obvious case of 'next generation' Trek?
- How many members of the Q Continuum have been seen?
- Is Michael Westmore, chief makeup wizard on TNG, related to Pat Westmore, hairstylist on Classic Trek, and if so, how?

Answers on page 84.

☆☆☆☆

REVIEWS - BOOKS/VIDEOS ETC.



FIRESTORM by LA Graf ST 68 Pocket Books \$5.50 (£4.70)

Reviewed by Sheila Clark

Geologically, Rakatan is a very active planet; a world of volcanoes and earthquakes. A geological group has been studying it, but their efforts are interrupted when an Elasian ship arrives, claiming the planet, and setting up a mining camp on the largest volcano, Rakatan Mons, which has not erupted for fifteen thousand years. One of the junior geologists claims to have detected signals which she believes indicate intelligent life inside the volcano; and earthquakes indicate that the volcano might just decide to erupt at any time.

Attempts to contact the Elasiens are hampered by their refusal to deal with anyone except a high-ranking female, so Uhura is assigned the task of dealing with Israi, the bad-tempered 14-year-old sister of Elaan, who is now the Dohlman - a task complicated by the Elasiens' paranoid insistence that the geologists are using their seismic equipment to sabotage the mining operation.

Basically it is well handled, although the writer's interpretation of the Elasiens doesn't quite mesh with the facts given in the episode Elaan of Troyius. In the episode, for example, it is indicated that all Elasian women cry tears that enslave men, making them fall in love with the woman whose

tears have touched them; in the book, it appears that only the tears of the Dohlman and her immediate family have that power, and she uses them to 'bond' her bodyguard to her to the point where they are unable to act without her orders.

I have a few doubts about the intelligence of the geologists, who are depicted as being single-minded about their subject to the exclusion of everything else, including survival. Indeed, all of the writer's own characters show something of this single-mindedness.

It made a nice change to have a book revolving around the lesser characters, particularly Uhura, but I could have wished for a little more dealing with Kirk and Co on the Enterprise. Fans of Uhura, Sulu and Chekov, however, should thoroughly enjoy it.

It was sheer coincidence, of course, but I found reading this book at the same time as hearing details about the recent LA earthquake on the news a little disquieting.

FALLEN HEROES by Dafydd ab Hugh
DS9 5 Pocket Books \$5.50 (£4.70)
Reviewed by Sheila Clark

A group of alien warriors comes through the wormhole demanding the release of "The one who looks like them". They invade the station, and kill everyone they ask who replies "I don't know what you mean". The DS9 crew try to defend themselves, but the aliens have personal shields that render them apparently immune to phaser fire - while themselves using projectile weapons against which the DS9 people have no defense.

Odo and Quark had not been seen for some time prior to the invasion; they had been examining a box Quark bought from the Captain of a ship from the Gamma Quadrant and suddenly found themselves three days in the future, on a dead and badly damaged station. Somehow they have to get back in time to try to prevent the attack.

Although I enjoyed it well enough, I

think this has been the weakest DS9 book so far. Much of this opinion is, of necessity, a personal reaction, formed mostly because I have to admit to certain reservations about the aliens. They are described as very secretive, extreme xenophobes, fearing yet at the same time despising all races who have come into contact with them - yet the Cardassians are mentioned as the only race who knows anything about them, and they refused to have anything to do with the Cardassians! Also, considering their conduct and the defensive range of their armour, I found myself wondering how one of them could ever be taken prisoner, and, by the end, how the situation that gave rise to the whole story could ever have arisen in the first place. (To say more on that point might spoil the story.) In many ways they are similar to the Borg - as ruthless, as apparently invincible for much of the time, as callous about their own dead - and I'm not sure I appreciate antagonists quite so motivelessly brutal. I'd have liked the book better if some reason for the aliens' xenophobia had been given instead of just the flat comment that that was how they were.

(There are no prizes for guessing that I'm not keen on stories involving Borg, Cardassians, Daleks - or any other race that seems virtually indestructible and totally geared to blood, death, destruction and assimilation.) I'm also a bit iffy about stories that revolve around time travel. I find it quite hard to suspend disbelief on the subject.

All that said, the writer tells a good enough story and the plot is imaginative (if somewhat bloodthirsty). It's certainly better than some of the poorest Classic and TNG novels, though that's not saying much. I'd like to see him handling a less action-orientated (I might almost say blood-orientated), more thoughtful plot before forming an opinion on whether I actually like him as a writer or not.

SINS OF COMMISSION by Susan Wright
Pocket Books TNG 29 \$5.50 (£4.70)
Reviewed by Sheila Clark

The Enterprise has been sent to take aid to Lessenar, a planet which is in the last

stages of ecological collapse. While in orbit, she is joined by a tourist liner - the polluted air of the planet produces brilliant streamers of light in changing colours; a positive tourist attraction. The Prospector is captained by Jacob Walch, an old friend of Worf's Human parents, who knew Worf as a child.

There is an explosion on the Prospector and the crew and tourists have to be taken aboard the Enterprise. Among them is a group of Sli, natives of a gas giant - a race which has been determined as sentient, although the Federation has been unable to make any sort of diplomatic progress with them. The Ferengi, however, claim to have made contact. This group of Sli are 'entertainers', with a Ferengi manager; they enhance emotions; but one of the group of 5 is killed in the explosion.

Problems arise on the Enterprise almost as soon as the Sli are taken aboard; and while they are coping with those, the crew is also trying to discover what they can do to help the natives of Lessenar.

At first sight this is yet another of the hit-em-on-the-head-with-a-hammer type of ecological comment. The planet is a total mess. However, this is merely the secondary plot, the primary one being in the nature of a whodunnit - who set the explosion that killed the Sli and why, plus how to communicate with the surviving Sli, and just what do the Ferengi want?

I found it hard to get into the book. I read the first page at least six times before getting past it onto page 2 - not because it was so gripping but because I just couldn't make much sense out of it (Picard is watching a play in the holodeck). Then, of course, there's the 'ho, hum' reaction to yet another ecological comment. OK, I grant it's a great basis for drama - but Trek books have overdone it a bit, and this is far from being the best ecological comment Trek has made.

I didn't much care for Ms Wright's treatment of Geordi. Somehow I don't see him as a character who is going to get bad tempered and then sit sulking when his emotions have been triggered.

I think this book would have been improved without the ecological 'statement'. The planet could have been uninhabited and still be a tourist attraction (come to that, I don't think I cared for a planet whose inhabitants were destroying themselves being used as a tourist attraction, though I suppose it's akin to the way people crowd to the scene of a disaster to gawk at what they can see); or it could have been a planet that specialised in tourist attractions - the Blackpool of space. It did get a little better towards the end, but this is another of the books I doubt I'll bother to re-read.

BEST DESTINY by Diane Carey

Reviewed by Jean Sloan

The novel opens with the Enterprise, after ST VI, on a final run before being decommissioned. The ship's peace is interrupted by the disappearance of an Excelsior class Starship, The Bill of Rights, in circumstances which suggest that she has been destroyed. The incident happens near a world called Faramond, which is a major archaeological site. Kirk has visited the area before, when he was sixteen, in the company of his father.

From this point on, the story of the Enterprise's search for The Bill of Rights is told alongside the story of Kirk's boyhood adventure, which is really a 'rites of passage' story. It is the young James Kirk's second trip into space; on his first trip he encountered Kodos the Executioner, and witnessed the atrocities committed on Tarsus II. That experience, and his father's absence from home, has turned Jimmy into a rebellious teenager who believes in nothing except himself, and who professes to hate his father. George Samuel Kirk has brought his son with him on a mission in the hope of turning him from a path which will lead the teenager into trouble.

The mission is on board the newly-commissioned Enterprise 1701, under the command of Robert April. The Enterprise is off to settle a border dispute; George Kirk and his son are to leave the ship in a cutter to visit Faramond, and then rendezvous with the Enterprise. However, things go wrong,

and James T. has to grow up fast.

To give any more plot detail would spoil the novel for others. It is an enjoyable read, well paced, full of action. Diane Carey's own characters are well drawn, and I liked her portrayal of the young Kirk; the Enterprise after ST VI 'feels' right also. My only quibble was that Robert April goes off with the Kirks in the cutter, and I do not see why he would do that when his ship was engaged in a mission - perhaps I missed something.

The two plots are linked together at the end, as the adult Kirk comes to terms with the end of an era in the same way as his young counterpart came to terms with growing up. I found the ending very satisfying as it leaves a feeling of hope for the future...

I would recommend this to Kirk fans and to anyone who likes a good action-adventure story. I am always suspicious of stories about characters' younger selves, but this one works, and it is better written than most of the ST novels I have read lately. One word of warning for the squeamish - graphic description of violent episodes, not gratuitous, but vivid...

THE PRICE OF THE PHOENIX by Sondra Marshak & Myrna Culbreath Titan edition (UK) 1993 £3.99 Reviewed by Jay Stevensen

This has to be the worst Star Trek book ever.

The authors are fans, but you'd never guess it from this muddled self-indulgent ramble. The cast list includes Omne, the heavy, an 'alpha male' (so he keeps insisting) who wears a black catsuit over his rippling muscles, and the female Romulan Commander. If there's a plot I missed it... but I gave up struggling with the unbelievably awful dialogue half way through and skimmed the rest.

Parts of the book sound like a standard S&M pulp novel. Sample dialogue (Omne to Kirk): "You will cry - and then you will beg. You will know the real right of the man who

can best you and master you." Other parts out-Cartland dear old Dame Barbara. Sample musing (Romulan Commander thinking about Kirk): "*He could melt stone,*" she thought, looking into the expressive face. *Melt stone hearts. Vulcan. Romulan. The galaxy could not stand against him. How many hearts had he melted, how many faces warmed with those gentle demanding hands...*"

Maybe it's someone's idea of Trek, Jim, but not as most of us know it...

If you're into literary masochism buy the book. If you're not, spend your £3.99 on a fanzine. Any fanzine. Whatever you get it has to be better than this.

CAPTAIN'S LOG SUPPLEMENTAL - TNG 6th SEASON GUIDEBOOK by M A Altman Image Publishing, 1993
Reviewed by Edward Woo.

If you enjoyed the original Captain's Logs - The Complete Trek Voyages, published in July 1993, you will need to obtain this 125 page supplemental book to complete the series so far.

As before, there is a paragraph or two about the episode storyline whilst the rest of it deals with the behind the scenes activities - how each episode came to be made, eg story revisions, production ideas, effect etc.

The first chapter of the book has an overview of season six from the crew, writers, directors etc. Then there's the main body of the book. The final section is an appendix with a Q & A session from the TNG cast in January '93.

Many of the cast believe The Offspring to be their favourite episode. There's nothing really new that we don't already know about, but just more Trek trivia, including scenes filmed that were left on the cutting room floor.

The only criticism is that at £9.95 it is expensive and the publishers could have waited another year and combined the 6th and 7th seasons into one volume, if TNG is to end in 1994. No doubt the American version

of this book has glossy pages, which is better but more expensive.

The writer intends to do a DS9 book, to be called Commander's Logs.

CAPTAIN'S LOGS - THE COMPLETE TREK VOYAGES by Edward Gross & Mark A. Altman. Bantam 1993 £12.99
Reviewed by Jay Stevensen

Large format, 269 pages, excellent value from start to finish, particularly for Classic fans as almost half the book deals with the original series (live and animated) and the films. The rest is Next Generation (including a bit on Gene Roddenberry's 'lost' episode Ferengi Gold) with DS9 coming in as the poor relation at the end. Not the authors' fault, this was probably all the information available at the time.

Yes, of course there are episode guides (again), but there's also a wealth of behind the scenes information, not all of it saccharine sweet either. Wanna script a Trek film? Read this book! It might just change your mind!

Nice photographs, including a good coloured section with pictures of the Original and Next Gen crews. Not to be read at one sitting, but kept and dipped into. If you've got a birthday coming up, start dropping hints now...

STAR TREK MEMORIES by William Shatner Harper Collins 1993 £8.99
Reviewed by Jay Stevensen

Great stuff! Bill comes across as having a nice line in humour and self deprecation. I defy anyone to think he's pompous after reading this.

As well as the usual anecdotes there's a wealth of behind the scenes information on the way Trek evolved. Read in conjunction with Captain's Logs (Gross & Altman) it describes what I'm sure is a more accurate picture of the acting and production pressures involved in making Trek than we've been given in the past. It was fun... sure. But not all the time.

Bill allows plenty of page space to others. Leonard Nimoy's opinions and memories feature strongly, there's praise for the 'back room boys' and a chapter on Gene Coon (The Unsung Hero) whose contribution to Trek does not always get the recognition it deserves.

Add to this some design drawings, plenty of good photographs (many 'behind the scenes') and some delightful captions (I particularly liked Star Trek XXIV: the Way to the Home) and you have a worthy addition to any Trek library. I might even suggest an essential addition. And sensibly priced.

Treat yourself... you won't regret it.

HIGHLY ILLOGICAL Leonard Nimoy. CD.
Reviewed by Jay Stevensen

Definitely one for Leonard's fans. I'm guessing (there's no information on the label) but this must have been compiled from recordings made during the sixties and seventies. Twenty numbers, some sung, some spoken. Some with Star Trek associations, some folk or 'pop' tunes. A few are a mistake, wrong for Leonard's voice (and it's no secret that he's not going to make Pavarotti lose any sleep) but others are pleasant and catchy. The spoken word pieces and are beautifully done, which won't surprise anyone.

A certain Janet Quarton is credited with photographic research. She might have come up with a few more pictures!

Available from Virgin Megastore 14 - 16 Oxford St London W1N 9EL Tel 071 631 1234, Fax 071 580 9546 £13.49 (+£1 P&P)
[Janet: I lent them the sleeves from my Leonard Nimoy LPs - and I am still waiting for their return!]

WHALES ALIVE Paul Winter/Paul Halley. Narration by Leonard Nimoy Living Music CD or cassette Reviewed by Jay Stevensen

The combination of whale song, evocative music and Leonard Nimoy's narration makes this unusual and beautiful recording ideal for quiet reflective listening.

Instrumentation includes organ, cello, saxophone, horn and percussion. There are nine numbers and Leonard reads extracts from poetry and appropriate books on six of them.

Nominated for a Grammy, all profits from sales go to support the Whale Conservation Unit founded by Doctor Roger Payne, one of the scientists Leonard consulted while he was researching for ST:IV. Paramount also gave a benefit performance on the film to raise money for Dr Payne's Long Term Research Institute.

Available from the Whale Conservation Unit, 191 Weston Rd, Lincoln, MA 01773, USA at \$15 for the CD and \$12 for the cassette, plus \$3 postage (in 1993). It might be a good idea to check prices with them first.

ELECTRONIC ENTERPRISE NCC-1701-A
ERTL model £39.99

Reviewed by Rory Smith

I was excited about this model. The box said it had lights and sounds - phasers, photons. But on making it up, I discovered several flaws:

1) As with every Enterprise model I've made so far, the warp engines were terribly badly designed so that it was difficult to get them aligned and to stay in the slots as the plastic that slotted in, holding them in place, was far too small. To align them I did as was suggested and put some tape in between the engines at either end so they were parallel,

but they just slipped sideways. Any professional modellers out there - any ideas?

2) Another major flaw was when batteries were put in place. I found that when all the lights flashed on it dimmed the power of the lights behind the deflector dish and in the windows. This was understandable as the flashing light used extra power, but there was a whole circuit board hidden which I'm sure could have fixed it.

3) The lights to the windows weren't powerful enough. There was one bulb for the top half of the dish and one for the bottom, which handled the lights. These were fixed in a kind of dish so when they shone the light shone out from the edge of the dish all round. Quite clever if it worked, but unfortunately it created a tiny glimmer of light which couldn't get through the windows.

4) The sound effects were also affected by the power drain from the lights. You flicked a switch and the sound came out of a speaker contained in the stand. Each sound effect lasted a long period, long enough for several on-and-off flashes of the bulb. This caused it to make several garbled noises every time the power was reduced.

The final verdict though the model looked good and sounded good from the description, it isn't really worth £40. It may have been that mine was slightly faulty, but the flaws really ruined the model. It looks good as long as you leave the lights off!

☆☆☆☆

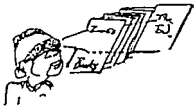
ANSWERS TO TARUKA QUIZ

1. All have reprised Classic characters on film; Amanda (Journey to Babel/The Voyage Home), Janice Rand (most noticeably in TUC) and Khan Noonian Singh (Space Seed/The Wrath of Khan)
2. Both have played characters who are blind (Miranda Jones in Is There in Truth No Beauty and Geordi La Forge in TNG)
3. Both were directed by Robert Wise.
4. Actor Christopher Plummer (who was

directed by Robert Wise in The Sound of Music)

5. Vasquez Rocks perhaps?
6. Both have played two different Klingons, one on film and one in TNG (Korrd in TFF/K'mpec in Sins of the Father; Klingon Attorney in TUC/Worf in TNG)
7. Music by Alexander Courage
8. Both have played androids in scripts written by Roddenberry - in fact, the same

- android if truth be told - Questor and Data.
9. Both have tap-danced on screen (Plato's Stepchildren/Data's Day). So has Brent Spiner.
 10. Director Richard Colla
 11. Both have played different characters in Classic Trek and TNG (Mudd's Women/ The Mark of Gideon/Too Short a Season; The Trouble With Tribbles;11001001; Is There in Truth no Beauty/Return to Tomorrow/Season 2 TNG)
 12. Two survivors of The Cage who also appeared in Unification.
 13. Voiceovers. And odd voices, eg James Doohan was the voice of Sargon. Majel Barrett ship's computer, and Michael Dorn has been noticeable in a few episodes.
 14. Both have played a Vulcan and a Klingon in that order. (Sarek/Klingon Captain in TMP; Selar/K'ehlyr)
 15. Both have played their own parents or grandparents (Sela is Tasha Yar's daughter; The Klingon Attorney in TUC is Worf's grandfather)
 16. Director Joseph Stefano
 17. Split-screen time. All have played two or more characters in two or more ST episodes; William Shatner as two Captain Kirks in What Are Little Girls Made Of?, Whom Gods Destroy and The Enemy Within; Patrick Stewart as two Captain Picards in Time Squared and Allegiance, also on the holodeck in The Defector; Brent Spiner as Data and Lore in Datalore, Data and Lore in Birthright, all three in Brothers, Data and Lore in Descent, three Datas in We'll Always have Paris and of course no fewer than six characters in A Fistful of Datas
 18. All three have appeared in TWOK and a TNG episode; Merritt Buttrick and Scott Judson in Symbiosis and Paul Winfield in darmok.
 19. All have played pregnant women, Julie Newmar in Friday's Child, Rosalind Chao most noticeably in Disaster and Marina Sirtis in The Child
 20. Edith Keeler's theme in City on the Edge of Forever is the song Goodnight Sweetheart which Brent Spiner has recorded.
 21. I deliberately left Brent Spiner out. All three have played androids. William Shatner in What Are Little Girls Made Of?, Richard Tatro (Norman) in I Mudd and Hallie Todd (Lal) in The Offspring
 22. They have played two different alien characters. Skip Homier was Melakon in Patterns of Force and Dr Sevrin in The Way to Eden; Ian Wolfe was Septimus in Bread and Circuses and Mr Atoz in All Our Yesterdays, and Michelle Forbes had a small part in Half a Life before becoming Ensign Ro Laren.
 23. This is corny, but Leonard Nimoy appeared in episodes of Get Smart and Mission Impossible; John de Lancie has appeared in the new Mission Impossible as well as in the film Get Smart Again.
 24. It's another one of those questions. All have played at least three distinct and memorable characters. Mark Lenard played a Romulan in Balance of Terror, Sarek several times, and the Klingon Commander in ST:TMP. Marc Alaimo has been seen as a Selay in Lonely Among Us, Gul Duset in The Wounded, the Gambler in Time's Arrow and Gul Dukat in DS9:Emissary. David Warner was St John Talbot in TFF, Chancellor Gorkon in TUC and a Cardassian in Chains of Command.
 25. You asked for this! It was directed by Adam Nimoy, son of Leonard.
 26. Please feel free to correct me. Four. (John de Lancie) Q2 (Corbin Bernson) Amanda in True Q and also in that episode a fourth Q in the form of a shadow on the wall voiced, if I'm not badly mistaken, by Patrick Stewart. Seven if you include Trelane and his parents in The Squire of Gothos.
 27. Yes. Pat Westmore is Michael Westmore's aunt.
-
- SOLUTION TO WORD SPIRAL:**
 Holodeck, Kodos, Sublight, Teleport, Two Zero One, Empath, Helmsman, Nowhere Nothing, Galileo, O'Brien, Nacelles, Synthetic, Card, Desilu, Under Sea, Alyssa, Ardra, Annihilate, Enterprise, Evasive, Ensign, Navigator, Riley.
- Info from: Star Trek Concordance - Bjo Trimble; ST:TNG Technical Manual - Rick Sternbach & Michael Okuda; ST:TNG Companion - Larry Nemecek



ZINE REVIEWS

MAKE IT SO 18 Reviewed by A-M Flowers

Geordi on the front, Worf inside and 98 pages of fan-fantasy make this one of the best TNG zines from ScoTpress. There are 7 stories and 7 poems, all of a very high standard.

Being a Picard fan I particularly liked Dreaming Through the Twilight by Jackie Marshall and Tryptych by P J Poole. In the first story, Beverly and Deanna persuade Riker to go on shore leave with Picard after the Borg incident which has placed a great strain on the relationship between Captain and First Officer. Alone on the planet someone has to make the first move. This is a short but tense story with convincing characterisation, revealing the vulnerabilities of both men.

In Tryptych Picard is tormented by nightmares involving both the Borg and his 'wife and children' from Rellik. A possible solution is to erase the Hitaan memories altogether - not an easy decision for the Captain. This story again reveals the closeness of the main characters, particularly Deanna and the Captain.

There are two very different stories by Brenda Kelsey. And I Dreamed I Was an

Eagle is a Sela story giving another slant on the events of Redemption and Unification and presuming a very different relationship between Sela and her mother. I thought this story was excellent and I would like to see Ms Kelsey's premise taken up by Paramount. On the other hand, Running is a short, sharp musing on the first(?) meeting between Guinan and Picard.

Strands by Gaile Wood is a long Worf and Riker story taking up the second half of the zine. Our heroes, posing as renegades, are on a mission to save the child of an Alien race. Amongst other things they have to contend with a Russian slave trader, a brothel madam and an enigmatic heroine. It was nice to see Worf 'getting lucky' and my only complaint is that we don't get to hear him speaking Russian, which would have surprised the hell out of the slave trader!

The Positronic Dream Made Flesh by C Sterenberg is a Lore story. A Test of Warrior Skill by S Golding is another short story with Worf and Riker on the holodeck.

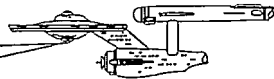
Overall, I give Make It So 18 an 8 out of 10 rating. Enjoy!

Make It So 18, £2.50 is available from ScoTpress; see zine ads for ordering info.

☆☆☆☆



NEW ZINES



ScoTpress

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IN THE WILDERNESS 2 - Why didn't Spock say his father was the Vulcan Ambassador? How does Amanda put up with husband and son? And much more! Prices as ITW1.

THE EXTREMISTS a novel by Eva Stuart. Adventure, romance, music and waste disposal aboard the Enterprise! Kirk and the crew must learn to live with the Klingons if the new peace is to succeed. Complex plot, fascinating characters. UK £7.00, Europe £9.00, USA \$23.00; Canada £10.00, Australia £10.00. K/S and adult relationships; age statement please.

IN THE WILDERNESS 4 (Due Feb '94) - I need one medium length story - or more if I'm greedy and go into reduced print. Village Press has just taken delivery of a real computer with laser print so that ITW4 should look good. It will be a glamour issue with artwork from Caren Parnes and others. Stories are by a mix of old and new writers. I'm always interested in seeing stories and never, ever unkind!

All prices air. All cheques accepted. PLEASE MAKE PAYABLE TO ROSEMARY WILD (new bank regs). All zines contain the K/S premise. Age statement please and from new readers a note that you understand the premise. Mrs. Rosemary Wild, 'Cwm Croeser', Stuckton, Fordingbridge, Hants.

THE SMALL PRINTERS

Sadly, because of rising costs, we have had to stop production of most of our zines. The exception is **NO ALTERNATIVE** by Glen David, a Star Trek - Blake's Seven crossover story, still available from L. R. Muir, 1 Moor Park Avenue, Leeds LS6 4BT, £4.75 inc p&p in UK. Please make cheques payable to L.R. Muir. However, several of our old titles, including "The Small Print" (a *Professionals* genzine, 4 issues) and several reprinted *Star Trek* stories by Meg Wright, are now available from: At the Sign of the Dragon, 131/133 Sheen Lane, London SW14 8AE. Please send an SAE to this new address for

details. Thank you for your past custom.

INFINITE FRONTIERS

INFINITE FRONTIERS is a fan publishing team devoted to releasing some of the best possible zines we can, specialising in article-based zines, not unlike club newsletters. Our first release is the unique title, **THE FINAL FRONTIER**, a magazine on DISK for owners of the Commodore Amiga computer!! To our knowledge, this was the world's first disk based magazine for Trek fans. Prices are: Issue 1 (2 disks) - £3, Issue 2 (3 disks) - £4, Issue 3 (4 disks) - £5 and Issue 4 (4 disks) - £5. All the above prices include P&P. Overseas orders are welcome - with no extra postage charges!! As a special offer to IDIC members, order all 4 issues for only £14.50, saving £2.50.

All orders must be in sterling and made payable to: Simon Plumble, 14 Rousdon Grove, Great Barr, Birmingham, B43 5HN, England. Please mention IDIC when replying.

FARPOINT PRESS

Due to high cost of producing the zines and lack of support from local group, I have decided to cease publication of the line. To those who have brought Encounters and Encounters The Next Generation, thank you.

Zines now available from Pat Mitchell:

NEW - 'A Touch of Tish' (K/S) An anthology of new and reprinted short stories, all by Tish. UK price £9

GEMINI - THE FLAME AND THE FIRE (K/S), the K/S sequel to Brother's Keeper. UK Price £6.00

Orders for the above must include an age statement and a statement to say you understand and accept the K/S premise.

Also still available; **BROTHER'S KEEPER** (genzine) a hurt/comfort story featuring Kirk and Spock. UK price £4.50. **MOMENTS IN TIME** (adult) Short stories featuring the TNG crew. UK price £5.50. Age statement required.

All prices include P&P. Foreign enquiries please send IRC for price. Flyers available for all the zines (send SAE). USA readers note the zines are all available from Bill Hupe. Cheques payable to Pat Mitchell, orders to 38 Ashbourne Grove, Halifax, West

Yorkshire, HX1 4JU, England.

Deep Space Nine - we are now seeking contributions for our new DS9 fiction zine "SPACED OUT". Artwork and fiction welcome. Publication for UFP '94.

Zines available now: Robin of Sherwood, War of the Worlds, Tomorrow People - SASE for prices and details. Also coming soon: The Agony Column #1 - multi-media h/c fiction. Contact: Helen Leithead, Shatterzine, 191 Hillcrest Drive, Southdown, Bath BA2 1HF.

MULTI-SPECIES MEDICINE is a newsletter for DS9/Bashir fans, with information and analysis. \$9/6 issues North America; \$12/6 issues elsewhere (U.S. funds, please). FTL Publications, P.O. Box 1363, Minnetonka, MN 55345, U.S.A.

H Gibson

We're looking for Trek writers to contribute to a new Classic/NG zine. No K/S and a definite slant toward "minor" Classic characters. Any NG stories welcome. If you've any work to show us please submit stories, poems and artwork to H Gibson, 23 Blairatholl Avenue, Glasgow G11 7QJ.

The Nannytte Press

MAB by Debbie Lee. A face from Ensign Ro's past poses a threat to Counselor Troi's future. Riker and Crusher have their suspicions, but no proof! Will Ro Laren say something before it's too late? And why does Captain Picard seem so reluctant to interfere? 130 reduced print pages, A5 format. UK price £4.75 incl. p&p. Please ask for the price before ordering from abroad. All cheques, etc. in sterling only. Please make cheques and POs payable to D. Willcox, 17 Cameron Lodge, Stanley Road, Hounslow, Middx. TW3 1YX.

Sue Embury

OFF THE BEATEN TREK Classic Trek short stories, both serious and spoof with just a hint of TNG, plus a bonus of non-Trek tales, from Joan Cullen and Sue Embury. 112 pages in A5 format. UK price £2.95 inc p&p.

ALEXANDER - A time travel story in which Kirk and Spock find themselves trapped in Ancient Babylon during the last months of

Alexander the Great's reign. UK price £4.00 including p&p.

Both available from Sue Embury, Lower Bailea, Tregare, Monmouth, Gwent NP5 4JL

DUET

For Attention of all former contributors to the zines Duet 1-20, plus all the 'one-offs' published by Doreen DaBinette. We, Eileen Mitchell and Carole Weatherill, wish to reprint the Duet series in its entirety. If you contributed as a writer, poet or artist but do not wish for your work to be included please let us know as soon as possible. However, we hope you are agreeable to our efforts and thank you for your assistance. Please contact Carole Weatherill, 8 St Margaret's Grove, E. Twickenham, Middx TW1 1JG or Eileen Mitchell, 25 Winchester Road, E Twickenham, Middx TW1 1EL.

HULL STARFLEET

STAR TREK QUIZ BOOK Quizzes and puzzles. £3.00 inc. postage. Nina Lynch, 54, Claremont Ave., Hull, North Humberside, HU6 7LZ

KAG

THE BEST OF KAG... SO FAR. Available now. All the victories of the Klingon Assault Group - Europe documented in one monumental volume; plus costume building, language lessons, a short story, cartoons, scrapbook, and much, much more (last few copies) £3.50 (£3.00 to members) plus 50p P & P. Cheques/POs to KAG-UK. KAG Europe, PO Box 1015, Newmilns, Ayrshire, Scotland KA16 9JW.

SPACE-TIME CONTINUUM, a bi-monthly Visual Media newsletter edited by Bjo Trimble. It is full of news and well worth having. Subscription Rates for 6 issues: USA \$8 Bulk mail, \$10 First Class, Canada \$12.5 Air Printed Matter, Overseas \$18 GB/Europe Air Printed Matter, \$20 Pacific Rim Air Printed Matter. Make cheques/money orders payable to: Bjo Trimble. Bjo Trimble, P.O. Box 6858, Kingswood, TX 77325-6858 USA.

HiFi Media

M3 is an A5, 32 page fanzine produced on a Archimedes Acorn and each copy is laser

printed to 600dpi. It covers all British and American television fantasy and science fiction and from issue four, radio as well, illustrating them with artwork and B&W photos. Regular columns include MERCHANDISE (photos and info on old and rare items), TECH (technical information on TV and video in English!), OPINION (a discussion topic in each issue) and WAFFLE! which is ... well read it and find out!

M3 : ISSUE FOUR - NEXT GEN'S Ensign Ro Laren comes under the spotlight, we listen to Orson Welles' radio WAR OF THE WORLDS, take an overview of the new DOCTOR WHO adventures, consider SURVIVORS, combine all the Gerry Anderson puppets series into one universe, and ask if organised fandom can spoil a fan's enjoyment of their favourite series. Plus Telefantasy Reference Books, Non-English Language MERCHANDISE, and WAFFLE!

M3 : ISSUE FIVE - We ask if FORBIDDEN PLANET was the basis for STAR TREK, if the NEXT GENERATION novels are worthy of the name, and listen to the second season of HITCH HIKER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY. Plus TWIN PEAKS, THE MOON STALLION, MORK AND MINDY and more. ISSUES ONE to THREE are also available.

Each issue costs £1.75 including postage, cheques/POs payable to Stuart Halliday, M3(IDIC), 35 Pinewood Park, Deans, Livingston, EH54 8NN.

AIRWAVES: A multi-media fan-fiction zine, A4 size, computer printed, photocopied photo covers. 70 - 110 pages per issue. 28 issues currently available, new issues out on a quarterly basis. Also available: THE HOODED MAN (Robin of Sherwood - 3 issues, more planned); KNIGHT 2000 (Knight Rider - 14 issues); RIDER COMING IN... (The Young Riders - 2 issues, more planned); FLIGHT INTO SLAVERY (B7 crossover with Battlestar Galactica); CHILDREN OF PEACE ('V'); . Submissions wanted for any and all publications, no limits to length but no "/" fiction please. Cross-overs and/or spoofs especially welcome. Amstrad users (Locoscript 1 or 2) with PCW's 8256 or 8512 (A-drive only) (3" disc - 180k) or PCW 9265, 9512 or PCW 10 (3.5" - 720K) can submit their work on disc to save postage. Discs will be sent back by return of post, manuscripts if requested. SAE (2 IRC's) for further details to: Miss B Callagher, 195 Radipole Lane, Weymouth, Dorset, DT4 0TQ.

☆☆☆☆

CONVENTIONS/ADVERTS/CLUBS/GROUPS



Conventions



UFP CON '94 (The 37th British Star Trek Convention) 29th April to 2nd May 1994, Britannia International Hotel, London. Registration: £30. Under 16's half price, under 10's free. Accommodation: £27.50 per person in a twin, double or triple, £31.00 in a single. For a registration form and further details please send an SAE to Ros Liddle, 61 The Scotchhill, Coventry CV6 2EW.

UNICON II A Star Trek/Science Fiction Convention. 24th-26th June, 1994. Hilton International Hotel, Bristol. Registration: full £25, Saturday only £17.50. Reduced rates for under 14's. Room rates, £30 per person, per

night. SAE for form to Unicon, 55 Kildare Road, Knowle, Bristol BS4 1PR.

CONSTITUTION II 8th-10th July, 1994. The Tollgate Motel, Watling Street, Gravesend, Kent. The Intrepid Star Trek club's second mini-convention. Videos of Star Trek in all its forms, talks, quizzes and discos. Registration: Full £15, one day £10. Hotel rates: £35 pppn in a single room; £30, pppn in twin/double rooms. SAE for further details to Tina Hewett, 115 The Brent, Dartford, Kent DA1 1YH.

CONTAGION: The Fourth Scottish Star Trek Convention. 23-25 July 1994. Hospitality Inn, Glasgow. Guests to be confirmed. Registration rates: £35. Hotel rates available on request. Send SAE to Contagion, P.O. Box

867, Rutherglen, Glasgow G73 4HR for full details.

ARCHON '94 The 38th British Star Trek Convention. 26th-29th August 1994 at the Edwardian International Hotel, Heathrow, London. Guests TBA. Full registration until 1st May 1994: £27, thereafter £30. Room Rates Twin/Double £31 pppn, single £27 pppn. Closing date for registrations 10th August, 1994. For more information please send a 9"x4" SAE to Archon Registrations, 43 Eastern Avenue, Polegate, East Sussex BN26 6HG.

IRECON 4 3rd & 4th September, 1994. The Royal Hotel, Bray, Co. Wicklow. Guest (work permitting): Gates McFadden. Programme includes guests, role-play board games, videos, workshops, dealers' room etc. Tel: 01 - 2862935.

MIDCON '94 (British 21st Anniversary Star Trek Convention) Our 13th Annual Convention. 7th - 9th October, 1994. Holiday Inn, Leicester. Our 8th consecutive year at this venue... Confirmed Guest Richard Arnold (Freelance Star Trek Consultant). Other guests to be announced. Registration Rates: Adults £30.00 (children pro-rata). Instalment plan available. Further information from Terry Elson, MIDCON '94, 8 Ennerdale Close, OADB, Leicester LE2 4TN. Please enclose a SAE.

WOLF 359 in association with 1701 A-D. 28th - 31st October 1994. Holiday Inn Leicester. Registration £30 (till Dec 93), children under 16 years half price, under 7 years FREE. Payments by instalments accepted. Accommodation: All rooms include B&B. Triple £25.00, Twin/Double £30.00, Single £41.00. Enquire about the QUAD at £22.50. Young adults under 19 years are free when sharing with a parent, (breakfast will be charged additionally). All enquiries to Margo White, 37 Branksome Road, Southend on Sea, Essex SS2 4HG. Please enclose a SAE.

THE NEUTRAL ZONE March 10th-12th 1995 The Forte Crest Hotel, Newcastle Upon Tyne. Confirmed Guest Richard Arnold, others to be announced. Full programme

running from Friday till Sunday. Events include Guest Talks, Dealers' Rooms, Quizzes, Disco, Charity Auction, Fancy Dress, Raffle, Art & Models Competition, and a full video programme including TNG, DS9 and hopefully, ST:Voyager. Plus alternate Science Fiction Programme. Held in support of Guide Dogs for the Blind and The Stoke Association. SAE for further details to The Neutral Zone, 16 Annandale, Darlington, Co. Durham, DL1 3QX

SOL III '95 - the 39th British Star Trek Convention. 26-29 May 1995. Norbreck Castle Hotel, Blackpool. Charities: Shelter, Redwings Horse Sanctuary. Registration Fee: £30 Adult; £15 5-14 yrs; under 5's free. For further information and registration forms, write to Sol III, c/o Jean Barron, 39 Dersingham Avenue, Manor Park, London E12 5QF.

STARSHIP VOYAGES

presents a 7 night Star Trek cruise to Venice and the Greek Islands from 3rd - 11th June 1995. Guests Colm Meaney, John de Lancie, Jonathan del Arco, George Takei, others TBA. For more information please send a stamped SAE to Starship Voyages (41), 5 Plough Rise, Cranham, Upminster, Essex RM14 1XR, England. (This cruise is organised for fans by fans.)

OTHER EVENTS

VOYAGE '94 29th-31st July 1994. The First British Convention for fans of Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea. Novotel, Sheffield. Registration: £30. One day rates available. Room Rates: £26 per person, per night - Twin/Double; £33 per person, per night - Single. These rates apply for a 2 night stay. For more details and registration form please send an SAE or 2 IRCs to: Voyage 94, 15 Fullers Court, Exeter, Devon EX2 4DZ.

TRANSYLVANIA '94 29th October, 1994 Novotel, Hammersmith, London. Rocky Horror Convention. Reg: £25 plus 3 SAES until 31/5/94, £30 plus 3 SAES until 20/10/94. Meet the Guests, a chance to dress and win some great prizes, and your chance to

win a meal on us at the real Frankenstein's Place! SAE for registration forms to: Transylvania '94, 1 Elm Grove, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, Kents TN11 9HE. Overseas - please enclose IRCs.

AWAYTEAM '95 Yes, folks, we are doing it again. Next time will be in September 1995. Join us for a terrific Trek and Space Travel theme holiday, taking in a visit to the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, the Star Trek Adventure, Yosemite, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Paramount Studios, to name but a few of the many exciting places we will be visiting. For further details, please contact Sadie Mason & Paul Anson, 63 Woodstock Ave, Bobbers Mill, Nottingham NG7 5QP. (Once again we want to point out that we have NO CONNECTION with the Glasgow Away Team.)

OVERSEAS CONVENTIONS

STARDREAM I CONVENTION 8th - 11th September, 1994 Mannheim Congress Centre, Rosengarten. Guests include: Richard Arnold, James Doohan, Mark Lenard, George Takei, Robin Curtis, Gates McFadden, George de Lancie, LeVar Burton Full registration: 280,-DM till 31st December, 300,-DM till 31st March, 320,-DM till 30th June, 340,-DM till 31st August, 1994. For more info and registration form send SAE plus IRC to Star Trek Fanclub, Enterprise, c/o Sylvia Strybuc, Hans Sachs Ring 17, 68199 Mannheim-Niederfeld, Germany.

PERSONAL COLUMN

I would like to write to any Trekkers who like the Borg. I am 25 years old and I also like original Trek as well as TNG (I have yet to see DS9). Please write to: Miss Mandy Jane Sampson, 140 Boughton Green Road, Kingsthorpe, Northampton NN2 7SR. I will reply to all letters.

I'm looking for new people to write to (all over the world). I'm 30 years old, run a new fan club (with my friends), I'm going on The Cruise Trek this May (so if anyone is going then please get in contact with me!). Interests: music, travel, outings, Conventions. You can write to me at Miss Maria

Woodward, 'Ashcroft', East Street, Westbourne, Nr. Emsworth, Hampshire PO10 8SH.

To Sarah (tel 081 422 0769) I hope I'm able to help you to get Classic Trek photos. Please contact Antje Koenig, Rimbecker Strasse 11, 38855 Wernigerode, Germany.

Does anyone know someone called Robin (a social worker) from Sunderland who wore a NG red top and a Bajoran nose who went to Starbase '94. Ask her to contact me below, as I have a good photo of her. Edward Woo, 553 Smithdown Rd, Liverpool L15 5AF.

I am looking for a penfriend who's mad about Classic Trek and TNG (mainly Classic Trek and William Shatner). Mary Webb, 196 Laburnum Road, Viewpark, Uddingston, Glasgow. G71 5DA.

I'm looking for some penpals from everywhere across this planet. Maybe someone wants to "talk" to someone like me... crazy, curious... Born March 8th, 1968... I love to work with horses, listen to country music, walk my dog, watch Star Trek, write and read Star Trek stories, and a lot more things. Like writing letters in a strange kind of English. I hope to learn how to write 'normal' letters some day. Please write to: Heike, Golembusch, Segeberger Landstr. 61, 24145 Kiel, Germany.

Hi! I'm a 15 year old German Trekker and looking for penpals. I like all series (Classic, TNG, DS9), listening to music, reading and writing letters. I also like sports. Until now I've always had German penfriends but I would like to change this. No matter if you are a girl or boy, if you are 15 or 50, if you are Romulan, Vulcan, Klingon or Human, get out your pen and write to: Annette Bohm, Kuhstr. 35, 42555 Velbert, Germany.

MISC

PENPAL LIST Open to all. Send your ad to STalisha, 46 Boughton Road, South Shields, Tyne & Wear, NE33 2RP, England. For a copy of the list (continuously added to) send a STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE plus a loose 2nd class stamp (2 IRCs from abroad).

List currently (Feb 94) has 53 listings, male/female age 9-51 from 16 countries worldwide. Includes 16 SF fans.

NB: Anyone who has sent part-payment only (eg stamp no SAE) will NOT receive a list until they send the missing item(s) (anything already sent will be put aside). I am not only not a charity I am unemployed!

Ever stuck for that evasive piece of information, such as what was the 75th episode of TNG filmed? or whether you really did see a familiar face in an obscure show? Perhaps we can help from our vast store of Trek Trivia. Contact: LCARS, 70 Leadale Road, Leyland, Lancs PR5 7QR, or telephone Taruka Quauhtezcatl on 0772 709959.



SMALL ADS

Please note: All adverts are printed as a service to members and IDIC cannot accept any liability. Adverts should be a maximum of 10 lines - will be printed in one newsletter only.

Please only offer original items for sale - adverts will be edited if necessary. We will not knowingly print adverts for copied material which breaks copyright.

FOR SALE - A few complete sets of the new Deep Space Nine cards (no holograms) for £10 plus a few odd numbers for 10p each. Write to: Miss Maria Woodward, 'Ashcroft', East Street, Westbourne, Nr. Emsworth, Hampshire PO10 8SH.

FOR SALE - Titan novels, £1.25 each, all in good condition. Star Trek zines - mainly K/S - only a few. Please sent SAE for list. Christine Jones, The Bungalow, Recreation Ground, Leeholme, Co Durham DL14 8HN.

FOR SALE - Various zines and some large format books, due to lack of space. Send an SAE for details to Katrina Heintz, 23 Birniehill Avenue, Bathgate, West Lothian,

EH48 2RR

FOR SALE - I have recently started dealing at Sci Fi, solely in Star Trek merchandise. If any members of IDIC would like a list they can obtain one by sending an SAE to me and I will give them a 10% discount on any orders they place. Lawrence Hinrichs, 41 Morshead Mansions, Morshead Road, London W9 1LF.

FOR SALE - All in mint condition. 35 Titan Original Series novels + 10 Titan Next Gen novels + 3 Giant Original Series novels £70 for all (+ P & P). James Blish Star Trek 1 - 12 (Nos 11 & 12 1st editions - very rare! + Encounter at Farpoint novelisation + Star Trek 4 & 5 novelisations £25 for all (+ P & P). Star Trek Original Series scripts - Shore Leave & Plato's Stepchildren £10 each or £20 for both (inc P & P). 33 Starburst magazines (Original series, movies, Next Gen) £25 for all (inc P & P). 10 Enterprise Incidents/SF MovieLand magazines - very rare! £15 (inc P & P). 8 Sci-Fi Poster Magazines - very rare! £15 (inc P & P). Contact Mr Scott Carrick, Craigview, Craigton, North Kessock, Inverness, Scotland IV1 1YG.

FOR SALE - Encounter at Farpoint Script £5.00, The Best of Both Worlds Pt 1 & 2 script £5.99, also available soon Descent Parts 1 & 2 script £5.99. For more details send SAE to N Close, 63 Church Hill, Royston, Barnsley S71 4AG.

FOR SALE - Classic Trek genzines, send SAE for list. Also back copies of IDIC newsletters 3-31; STAG newsletters 98-107 & 110-111; Spotlight newsletters 34-41. All 75p per issue inc. p&xp. Sue Embury, Lower Baileia, Tregare, Monmouth, Gwent NP5 4JL.

FOR SALE - Selection of Titan novels, very good condition, plus several magazines. Please send a SAE to Philip Morley, 407 Fleetwood Road, Fleetwood, Lancs. FY7 8HN

FOR SALE - Various magazines featuring 25th Anniversary and Brent Spiner, Cinefantastique seasons 6 and 7. Gameboy + extras + games. Send SAE to: Rebekah Owens, 1 Bilberry Drive, Rubery, Rednal Birmingham, B45 9QY.

FOR SALE - Signed 8x10 b/w picture of Marina Sirtis - offers. 8x10, 9 colour photos of TNG crew from 1st season to sell together. £5 inc p&p. Russell Witheyman, 12 Whistler Close, Tilgate, Crawley, W. Sussex RH10 5DX

FOR SALE - My spring cleaning has revealed many novels, giant novels, magazines, postcards, photos and more. All for sale at rock bottom prices. Please sent SAE for full list to: Mrs S. Irons, 47 Halsbury Road West, Northolt, Middlesex UB5 4PN.

FOR SALE - GIANT NOVELS, £2.50 each- Enterprise - The First Adventure, Strangers From The Sky, Final Frontier, Shadow Lord. All 6 movie novels, £2 each. "The Classic Episodes" (3 volumes, 25th anniversary ed.) £5 each. 2 sew-on patches, £1 each. 5 various cloisonne pins, £3 each. Set of 10 5"x7" ST3, Classic Trek and ST:TMP stills, £3 each. HARDBACKS, £5 each- Prime Directive, Lost Years, Probe, Best Destiny. World Of Star Trek, £5. IDIC LOG 9, £2. TREK VIDEOS, £5. Phone Edwin on (0273) 734860 for more details.

FOR SALE - Set of 100 DS9 trading cards £10 plus 75p postage. Single cards available for DS9 and TekWorld trading cards 12p each. Send SAE for wants and availability to Mark French, 23 Colgrove, Welwyn Garden City, Herts AL8 6HY.

WANTED to buy - William Shatner on This Is Your Life. Reasonable price paid for good VHS copy. Anne Gregory, 27 Ashby Rd, Woodville, Swadlingcote, Derbyshire DE11 7BZ

WANTED - 2 wall plates, one of Spock with Enterprise behind him, one of the 25th anniversary. Also wanted, a sehlat, tribbles, Spock dolls, teddy bears. Will pay any reasonable price. Contact Jenny Turner, 46 Chinnbrook Rd, Billesley, Birmingham B13 0LX or phone 021 443 2995 after 6 pm please.

WANTED - Star Trek related clip art and any equipment/cast/crew images for PC. Can accept many formats, .PCX, .GIF, .TIF, etc and supply discs. Phone Alex on (0757) 707175 if you can help.

WANTED - Videos of Walter Koenig's films Moontrap, Deadly Honeymoon and Steambath. Also photos of Walter or Chokov. I will be happy to pay for them. I have some magazine posters, 10x8 in good condition, 2 of Scotty, 4 of Dr. McCoy, 4 of Uhura and others. I would be willing to swap these for any posters of Chekov. Please write to Shirley Read, 52 Stanton Road, Shirley, Solihull, West Midlands B90 2DY.

WANTED - To borrow or buy, 7th Season TNG episodes. Will pay reasonable cost and postage. Also, is anyone willing to lend me Make It So zines? I would be very grateful. Contact Miss Nanaki Kaur, 585 Stratford Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham B11 4LS.

WANTED - Everything and anything on the gorgeous Brent Spiner (preferably) without his make-up. (pictures etc.) Linda Pengelly, 8 St. Austin Close, Ivybridge, Devon PL21 9BZ. Tel: 0752 893928. Has anyone any videos of Brent's convention appearances? I will pay all costs.

WANTED - Sky One recently showed Shogun in 12 parts. Can anyone lend me part 10 on VHS Lp or Sp. Janet Quarton, 15 Letter Daill, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8SX.

WANTED - Actually anything on TNG in general, but there is a strong emphasis on Jean-Luc Picard and Beverly Crusher as well as the actors themselves. Anything including video interviews and specials in either PAL/ NTSC format, photos, slides, candids, magazines, clippings, artwork, zines and we would gladly buy/trade for TOS, Star Wars and/or other material - you name it. Does anyone have Sky News and Jay Leno Late Night Show interviews with Patrick Stewart on video etc. as well as photographs from A Christmas Carol??? - Uschi & Tom Brecht, Hof Guldenwerth 72, 42857 Remscheid, Germany. Fax...49-2191-780826.

WANTED - Does anyone have a copy of Movies, Movies, Movies Star Trek Special that I could borrow. I will pay postage costs. Also, does anyone know where I can get the Star Trek fonts and logo's used in The Next Generation and Deep Space Nine. For use on a PC running Microsoft Windows and

Windows packages. Ish Hussain. Tel: 0582 - 418623 after 7pm or 0582 - 424155 ext. 2419 during the day.

WANTED - A copy of the TNG blooper tape. Nanaki Kaur, 585 Stratford Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham B11 4LS.

WANTED: Anything on Brent Spiner, videos and photos etc.; Starlog 135, 171, 192 & Star Log Yearbook 10, CD by Brent Spiner, Ol' Yellow Eyes is Back. Andrea Sudworth, 24 Crescent Avenue, Ashton-in-Makerfield, Wigan, Greater Manchester WN4 9SG.

WANTED - Zines: In Triplicate and Broken Images. Will pay any price to buy or borrow or will swap for other K/S. Also: T.J. Hooker episode with Leonard Nimoy to buy or borrow. Or will swap for Man from UNCLE episode with William Shatner and Leonard Nimoy. All postage costs paid. Thanks. Julie Woolaston, 19 Stonebridge Road, Rassau, Ebbw Vale, Gwent NP23 5SL.

BUSINESS SMALL ADS

THE OFFICIAL STAR TREK FAN CLUB OF THE UK, The Old Barn, Jericho Farm, Worton, Near Cassington, Oxford OX8 1EB. Tel. No. 0865 883330. £14.99 for 4 magazines.

ENTERPRISE TOUR 1994. October 24th for 2 weeks. Hove Travel. Price from £895 per person, includes flights, transfers and the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel (Room only). Also for all Star Trek fans a FREE tour of Paramount Studios. We can also arrange optional excursions to Universal, Disneyland, Burbank Studios and many more (prices of excursions vary between £20 and £58). Contact Ian or Mark at Hove Travel Shop, 89a Church Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 2BA or call (0273) 730281 for more information.



CLUBS & GROUPS



UPDATE

We have available a set of information sheets giving the addresses and brief details of all the British Star Trek clubs and

local groups we know about, plus Star Trek related actor clubs in the UK and abroad. If you would like a copy write and ask Janet; enclose at least a 9" x 6" SAE plus an extra loose 25p stamp. (Note: new members receive a copy of this when they join IDIC, although we update it with the following info from each newsletter.)

Please enclose a SASE when writing to clubs for information.

STAR TREK ACTION GROUP: Britain's longest running Star Trek club, founded in 1973. Six newsletters per year of 40 - 80 pages with news, views, reviews, interviews and articles on all aspects of Star Trek from the original series and movies to ST:TNG, ST:DS9 and the future. Membership £8.50 (overseas rates on request). Merchandise available. For further information and a complimentary newsletter please send two second-class postage stamps or three IRCs to: STAG, 49 Nudger Green, Dobcross, Oldham, OL3 5AW.

QUARK'S BAR - A new Deep Space Nine club, is now open. 4 newsletters a year, membership fee is £6.00. Write for more details to: Miss Maria Woodward, 'Ashcroft', East Street, Westbourne, Nr. Emsworth, Hampshire PO10 8SH or Miss Dawn Tittley, 117 Dulwich Road, Kingstanding, Birmingham B44 0EW. Please enclose an SAE.

SIGNALS: A new Klingon fan club producing 3/A4 newsletters a year. £4.50 UK; £7.00 Europe; and £9.00 Overseas. Contact Kerry Mullins, 57 Eldon Road, Rotherham, South Yorkshire S65 1RB.

ANGF - Avid Next Genners' Forum is a Next Generation ONLY fanclub that's starting up. It's to be absolutely crammed with news, info, debate, the Next Generation, etc. You DEFINITELY have something to offer. Please get in contact. For more information send an SASE to: Corinna McCarthy, "The Coppice", Ardananigh, Killarney, Co. Kerry, Ireland.

STAGE 8 an International fan club for fans of Star Trek The Next Generation. Four n/ls a

year. U.K. £5.00. Europe £7.00 (inc. Eire), U.S.A. \$16.00/£10.00. SAE to Stage 8, c/o Sue Bunce, 11 Charingworth Road, Oakwood, Derby DE21 2QD.

GALACTIC FRIENDSHIP: Star Trek fan club, bi-monthly newsletters, news updates, yearbook (all publications in German), penpal list, more. 350,- Austrian Schillings per year. For information send SAE to Maria Nausch, Schmalzhofgasse 20/12, A-1060 Vienna, Austria.

OTHER CLUBS

ORION The Official British Twilight Zone Fan Club. Hon Mem: Mrs Carol Serling. Send enquiries to: Orion, 73 Bournemouth Park Road, Southend On Sea, Essex SS2 5JJ. Please send C5 size 1st class stamped SAE.

ROBIN OF SHERWOOD UK FAN CLUB. 4 newsletters per year on Michael Praed, Judi Trott, Anthony Valentine, Ray Winston, etc; biographies, yearbook etc. SAE for details to Shirley Read, Shirley Read, 52 Stanton Rd, Shirley, Solihull, West Mids B90 2DY.

The **BRITISH SCIENCE FICTION ASSOCIATION** Ltd.

What is the BSFA? The BSFA promotes and encourages the reading, writing, and publishing of science fiction, and provides a lively international forum where SF fans, authors, publishers, and critics alike can maintain contact and exchange ideas.

Membership of the BSFA for one year (6 mailings) is: UK and EC - £15; Europe outside EC - £18 (Airmail £21); The Americas - \$35 (Airmail \$45); Australia, Africa, and Asia - £21 (Airmail £28); Life Membership - £150

If you enjoy reading SF (including Trek, Fantasy, Horror, etc), then why not join the BSFA today? For further details and a Membership Form, please write (enclosing an SAE and/or IRC) to: BSFA Membership Enquiries, c/o Chris C Bailey, 52 Druids Walk, Didcot, Oxfordshire, OX11 7PF, England.

LOCAL GROUP NEWS

WARP NINE - a new local group for Star

Trek fans meets at the Tudor Hotel, Airdrie, 12 noon - 8 pm. Admission adults £5, children (14 and under) £3, under 5 free; all proceeds go to charity. Next meetings - May 22nd, July 3rd.

STARBASE APOLLO plan to meet every 5-6 weeks at the Douglas Hotel, Aberdeen. See new episodes of TNG and DS9, have the chance to buy merchandise and talk to fellow Trekkers. SAE for info to Captain Scott McMillan, c/o Starbase Apollo, 73 Thistle Drive, Portlethan.

Any IDIC members in the Liverpool/Merseyside area interested in getting together for friendly chats or evenings out about Trek please contact Edward Woo, 553 Smithdown Road, Wavertree, Liverpool L15 5AF, Merseyside. (over 18's only).

I am a member of Starfleet Command and I am looking for people in the Cheshire area, with the aim of creating a sub unit of Starfleet Command. Please contact Shirley Shatner, 18 Grampian Way, Winsford, Cheshire, CW7 1QG. Tel: 0606 559239.

THE AWAY TEAM: Scotland's Largest Star Trek Local Group. Regular meetings (10 am - 10 pm) every 6 weeks or so. Video orientated group with over 650 members showing the latest episodes of TNG and DS9. Star Trek merchandise for sale in Dealer's Room. Upcoming dates 16 April, 7 May and 11 June 1994 at City Halls, Glasgow. Send SAE to Contagion (Away Team), PO Box 867, Rutherglen, Glasgow G73 4HR for full details.

THE BRIDGE CREW: - formerly The Landing Party. The group can be contacted at Wester Auchinricoch Farm, Banton, Near Kilsyth G65 0QZ. Please enclose an SAE.

COVENTRY: Monthly meetings held in Coventry. First Saturday of every month at 12 noon, rear of Hotel Leofric in White Lion Bar, City Centre. All Trekkers welcome. Tel: 0203 503113. Mene Sakkhet Ur Seveh.

ENERGIZE - the ST group in Ashford. Weekly meetings involve chat, tea, coffee, Romulan ale and videos. Contact Chris King

on 170 580 4741 ext 196 during office hours or Dave & Tina Styles on 0233 642687 any time.

HULL STARFLEET Monthly meetings at the Tamworth Lodge, Beverley Road, Hull. Sundays 12 noon until 5pm, admission £1. For more info contact Tracy Beadle, 7 Lynwood Grove, Goddard Avenue, Hull HU5 2BE. Please enclose a SAE.

IPSWICH STARFLEET Star Trek Fan Club encompassing all forms of Star Trek. For details please write, with SAE, to Chris Wileman, 15 Parkeston Road, Felixstowe, Suffolk, IP11 8NF or telephone number above.

LEEDS STARFLEET: Meetings on the 2nd Sunday of the month between 12 and 5pm at Centenary House, North Street, Leeds 2. New larger venue!!! Write with SAE for more details to; Leeds Starfleet, P.O. Box HP 1701, Leeds LS6 4TE.

THE LONDON STAR TREK GROUP meets every two months or so at the Britannia Intercontinental Hotel, Grosvenor Square, London W1. For more details send an SAE to Kim Knight, 38 Rochford Avenue, Loughton, Essex IG10 2BS.

NORTH WALES Local Group. Contact Martin Hodgkins, 69 Fairways, Llandudno, Gwynedd.

OPEN HOUSE First weekend of every month but please phone first to check (081 985 0426). Zines for sale, tapes to watch, other fans to chat to. Janet Ellicott, 43 Brooksbank House, Retreat Place, Morning Lane, Hackney E9.

PRIME DIRECTIVE meets twice monthly at a city centre venue. Write to Michael Butcher, 501 Beechdale Road, Aspley, Nottingham NG8 3LF, for further info, enclosing an SAE.

SPACE CENTRAL The West Midlands Star Trek Group. Monthly meetings at Tamworth Arts Centre Theatre, Saturdays. Latest episodes on large screen, refreshments and occasional guest speakers/live events. Social evenings. Over 16s only. £1.50 per session.

For dates/further details, SAE to Lee Owers Sansome, 15 Foxglove, Amington, Tamworth, Staffs B77 4HY.

STAR TREK: THE NEW GATHERING (U.S.S. Discovery). Local meetings held in the Community Room, St Helens Library monthly. Write for details to Sharon Rowe, 93 Juddfield Street, Haydock, St Helens, Merseyside WA11 0BD.

U.S.S. TIANAMEN - Kirkcaldy's new Star Trek club for the over-18s. All enquiries contact Zander Bruce, 73 Brown Crescent, Thornton, Fife KY1 4AB, including SAE. 50% of money taken goes to IDIC Guide Dogs.

THE OUTER ZONE: meets once a month in Brighton. For more details of the club and the newsletter, please send an SASE to Ms. Sue Parker, The Outer Zone, 42 Victoria Street, BRIGHTON, East Sussex, BN1 3FQ.

DREAMWEAVERS local group specialising in Doctor Who, Star Trek and other cult Sci-fi. For more information please send a SAE to Ursula Clarke, 10 Bunbury Road, Bury St Edmunds, IP32 6HT.

☆☆☆☆

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The opinions stated in this newsletter are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the committee.

Send to:-

Janet - Subscriptions, renewals, all newsletter submissions on disc; all news, cuttings, adverts, merchandise info etc. for the newsletter; used stamps for the Guide Dogs.

Sheila - All Zine orders; postbag, articles & reviews for the newsletter; TNG submissions for zines (stories, poetry and artwork); used stamps.

Valerie - Classic Trek submissions for zines (stories, poetry and artwork).

DATA PROTECTION ACT

This is a statutory notice as prescribed by the above Act. In accordance with the conditions governing the maintenance of machine-readable records by non-incorporated members' clubs, IDIC must advise that the names and addresses of every member are held in a computer-readable format in order to more efficiently prepare and despatch newsletters. The information is used for this purpose only, and will not be disclosed to any other party whatsoever without the specific consent of the Data Subject (i.e. the member concerned). You should also be aware that you have a statutory right for your name to be deleted from the computer record and for your newsletters to be addressed manually.

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Dues UK £8.00, USA/Middle East Air \$24.00 (£14.00), Australia £15.00, Europe £10.00.

Typing by Janet & Sheila; layout, initial edit and printing of masters by Janet; proof-reading and final edit by Sheila and Valerie.

Title design by Mark Mclean, title illos by Marysia Kolodziej, Helen White & Edward Woo.

Printed by Urban Print, 57 Perth Road, Dundee.

Packed by Sheila's Chain Gang

1300 copies.

ATTENTION

UFP CON - SPECIAL WRITERS' WORKSHOP.
 How to write for Star Trek, by producers and scriptwriters Ron Moore and Brannon Braga, and script co-ordinator Lolita Fatjo. There will be a fee (yet to be fixed) to cover cost of importing a special pack of materials given to everyone who attends the workshop; this isn't available anywhere else

Stop press:

Patrick Stewart has been nominated for two Olivier Awards for the London production of Christmas Carol. He is up for Best Actor, and the show for Best Entertainment.
 Info. Margaret Rainey